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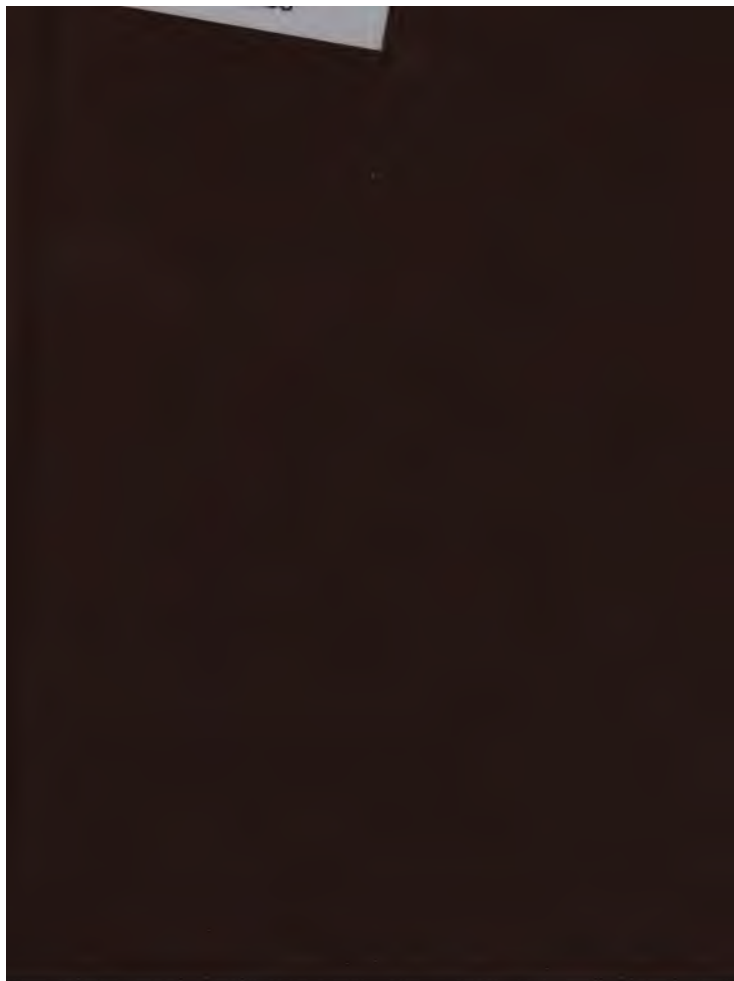
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SELECT PASSAGES FROM THE METAMORPHOSES.

WITH NOTES BY

THE REV. NORTH PINDER, M.A.,

RECTOR OF ROTHERFIELD GREYS,

LATE FELLOW AND TUTOR OF TRINITY COLLEGE, OXFORD.

SEELEY, JACKSON, & HALLIDAY, FLEET STREET,  
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## INTRODUCTION.

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THE *Metamorphoses* of Ovid, composed (probably for recitation) about the same time as the *Fasti* just before his banishment in 8 A.D., contain a series of such Greek and Latin legends as involve processes of *transformation*, extending from the creation of the world to the change of Julius Caesar into a star. The outline and materials of the poem were perhaps derived from the *Ἑτεροιοῦμενα* of Nicander [B.C. 185—135], and a similar work by Parthenius, the Greek preceptor of Virgil; but the grouping and treatment, the style, sentiment, and versification of the *Metamorphoses* are eminently characteristic of Ovid's genius. The work never received the final touch of its author, who, like Virgil, would fain have burnt his masterpiece, rather than let it descend to posterity incomplete and un-revised.

Of the following specimens the first traces the Metamorphosis, or deterioration, of the Ages from the Golden to the Iron. The second is part of a tale describing the petrification of a branch through contact with Medusa's head, laid on it by Perseus when rescuing Andromeda. The third is a Tragedy of Errors arising from misapprehensions, rather than alterations, of forms. The fourth represents the transformation of a statue into a living body. The fifth and sixth narrate the circumstances which led to the suicide of Ajax and the conversion of his blood into a flower; while the seventh exhibits the philosophy of transformation in general, as embodied in the doctrines, precepts, and experiences of Pythagoras.



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# P. OVIDIUS NASO.

## METAMORPHOSES.

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### I.—*The Four Ages.*

THE Golden Age came first, dispensing in its innocence with law, punishment, and tribunals (1—6). No ships or voyages were made (6—9). No sieges, implements of war, nor soldiers were required to maintain peace (9—13). Earth untilled gave her increase, and her children lived contented on wild fruits at first, presently on the corn and wine, milk, and honey yielded by the soil beneath the balmy atmosphere of perpetual spring (13—25). Next came the Silver Age and the rule of Jove, displacing Saturn (25—28). He curtailed the spring, and portioned out the four seasons of the year (28—33). Hence the need of houses, mere natural caves at first, or osier huts; then, too, began the tilling of the fields and the labour of the steers (33—37). The third was the Brazen Age, passionate and prone to war, but yet free from crime (37—39). With the fourth, the Iron Age, began the reign of wickedness; Violence, Fraud, and Avarice drove out before them Truth, Honour, and Self-restraint (39—44). Navigation is attempted by unpractised mariners (44—47). Next followed the division of common land and the digging of earth's hid treasures, iron and gold (47—54). With these appeared war and rapine, mutual hatred, and insecurity (54—58). Husband and wife plot each other's destruction; step-dames poison their husbands' children; the son calculates the hour of his father's death (58—61). Piety is crushed, and Astraea, the only Immortal left, quits earth at last (61—63).

Aurea prima sata est aetas, quae vindice nullo  
sponte sua, sine lege fidem rectumque colebat.  
poena metusque aberant, nec verba minacia fixo  
aere legebantur, nec supplex turba timebat  
udicis ora sui, sed erant sine iudice tuti.

nondum caesa suis, peregrinum ut viseret orbem,  
montibus in liquidas pinus descenderat undas,  
nullaque mortales praeter sua litora norant.  
nondum praecipites cingebant oppida fossae :  
non tuba directi, non aeris cornua flexi, 10  
non galeae, non ensis erant. sine militis usu  
mollia securae peragebant otia gentes.  
ipsa quoque immunis rastroque intacta, nec ullis  
saucia vomeribus per se dabat omnia tellus :  
contentique cibus nullo cogente creatis, 15  
arbuteos fetus montanaque fraga legebant,  
cornaque et in duris haerentia mora rubetis,  
et quae deciderant patula Jovis arbore glandes.  
ver erat aeternum, placidique tepentibus auris  
mulcebant zephyri natos sine semine flores. 20  
mox etiam fruges tellus inarata ferebat,  
nec renovatus ager gravidis canebat aristis :  
flumina jam lactis, jam flumina nectaris ibant,  
flavaque de viridi stillabant ilice mella.

Postquam Saturno tenebrosa in Tartara misso 25  
sub Jove mundus erat, subiit argentea proles  
auro deterior, fulvo pretiosior aere.  
Juppiter<sup>1</sup> antiqui contraxit tempora veris,  
perque hiemes aestusque et inaequales autumnos  
et breve ver spatiis exegit quattuor annum. 30  
tum primum siccis aër fervoribus ustus  
canduit, et ventis glacies adstricta pependit.  
tum primum subiere domus. domus antra fuerunt  
et densi frutices et vinctae cortice virgae.  
semina tum primum longis Cerealia sulcis 35  
obruta sunt, pressique jugo gemuere juvenci.

Tertia post illam successit aënea proles,  
saevior ingeniis, et ad horrida promptior arma,  
non scelerata tamen. de duro est ultima ferro.  
protinus irrupit venae pejoris in aevum 40  
omne nefas. fugere pudor verumque fidesque :  
in quorum subiere locum fraudesque dolique  
insidiaque et vis et amor sceleratus habendi.

<sup>1</sup> Juppiter.

vela dabant ventis, nec adhuc bene noverat illos  
 navita. quaeque diu steterant in montibus altis, 45  
 fluctibus ignotis insultavere carinae.  
 communemque prius, ceu lumina solis et auras,  
 cautus humum longo signavit limite mensor.  
 nec tantum segetes alimentaue debita dives  
 poscebatur humus, sed itum est in viscera terrae : 50  
 quasque recondiderat Stygiisque admoverat umbris,  
 effodiuntur opes, irritamenta malorum.  
 jamque nocens ferrum, ferroque nocentius aurum  
 prodierat. prodit bellum, quod pugnat utroque,  
 sanguineaue manu crepitantia concutit arma. 55  
 vivitur ex rapto. non hospes ab hospite tutus,  
 non socer a genero. fratrum quoque gratia rara est.  
 imminet exitio vir conjugis, illa mariti :  
 lurida terribiles miscent aconita novercae :  
 filius ante diem patrios inquit in annos. 60  
 victa jacet pietas. et virgo caede madentes,  
 ultima caelestum, terras Astraea reliquit.

## II.—*The Tale of Perseus and Andromeda.*

Perseus, in his journey through the air from Libya, had been driven about by storms of wind ; sheltering from these for the night, in the calm of the morning he resumes his flight, Aeolus having imprisoned the winds (1—6). He describes Aethiopia, the realm of King Cepheus (6—8). There Andromeda, expiating by order of the oracle the impious boast of her mother, hangs bound to the cliff, weeping and motionless (8—13). Perseus, smitten with love, stops and asks the maiden her name and the cause of her punishment (13—19). She replies at first only with tears, but presently tells her history and that of her mother's sin (19—26). She is interrupted by the approach of the sea-monster. Amid the lamentations of the maiden and her parents, Perseus extracts a promise that he shall win Andromeda for his bride if he succeeds in rescuing her (26—44). Perseus soars into the air, thence darts down on the back of the monster, and in a fierce encounter stabs him over and over again (44—73). With shouts of joy and triumph, the maiden is loosed of her chains (73—78).

Clauserat Hippotades aeterno carcere ventos,  
 admonitorque operum caelo clarissimus alto  
 Lucifer ortus erat. pennis ligat ille resumptis

parte ab utraque pedes, teloque accingitur unco,  
 et liquidum motis talaribus aëra findit. 5  
 gentibus innumeris circumque infraque relictis  
 Aethiopum populos, Cepheaque conspicit arva.  
 illic inmeritam maternae pendere linguae  
 Andromedan poenas inmitis<sup>1</sup> jusserat Ammon.  
 quam simul ad duras religatam brachia<sup>2</sup> cautes 10  
 vidit Abantiades,...nisi quod levis aura capillos  
 moverat, et tepido manabant lumina fletu,  
 marmoreum ratus esset opus...trahit inscius ignes  
 et stupet et visae correptus imagine formae  
 paene suas quater est oblitus in aëre pennas. 15  
 ut stetit, 'O' dixit 'non istis digna catenis,  
 sed quibus inter se cupidi junguntur amantes,  
 pande requirenti nomen terraeque tuumque,  
 et cur vincla geras.' primo silet illa, nec audet  
 appellare virum virgo. manibusque modestos 20  
 celasset vultus, si non religata fuisset.  
 lumina, quod potuit, lacrimis implevit obortis.  
 saepius instanti, sua ne delicta fateri  
 nolle videretur, nomen terraeque suumque,  
 quantaque maternae fuerit fiducia formae, 25  
 indicat. et nondum memoratis omnibus unda  
 insonuit, veniensque immenso<sup>3</sup> belua ponto  
 eminet et latum sub pectore possidet aequor.  
 conclamat virgo. genitor lugubris et una  
 mater adest, ambo miseri, sed justius illa. 30  
 nec secum auxilium, sed dignos tempore fletus  
 plangoremque ferunt, vinctoque in corpore adhaerent :  
 cum sic hospes ait : 'lacrimarum longa manere  
 tempora vos poterunt: ad opem brevis hora ferendam est.  
 hanc ego si peterem Perseus Jove natus et illa, 35  
 quam clausam implevit fecundo Juppiter auro,  
 Gorgonis anguicomae Perseus superator, et alis  
 aetherias ausus jactatis ire per auras,  
 praeferrer cunctis certe gener. addere tantis  
 dotibus et meritum, faveant modo numina, tempto.<sup>4</sup> 40

<sup>1</sup> immitis.<sup>2</sup> brachia.<sup>3</sup> immenso.<sup>4</sup> tento.

ut mea sit servata mea virtute, paciscor.<sup>1</sup>  
 accipiunt legem...quis enim dubitaret?...et orant,  
 promittuntque super regnum dotale parentes.  
 ecce velut navis praefixo concita rostro  
 sulcat aquas, juvenum sudantibus acta lacertis, 45  
 sic fera dimotis impulsu pectoris undis  
 tantum aberat scopulis, quantum Balearica torto  
 funda potest plumbo medii transmittere caeli :  
 cum subito juvenis pedibus tellure repulsa  
 arduus in nubes abiit. ut in aequore summo 50  
 umbra viri visa est, visam fera saevit in umbram  
 utque Jovis praepes, vacuo cum vidit in arvo  
 praebentem Phoebō liventia terga draconem,  
 occupat aversum, neu saeva retorqueat ora,  
 squamigeris avidos figit cervicibus unguēs : 55  
 sic celer inmisso<sup>1</sup> praeceps per inane volatu  
 terga ferae pressit, dextroque frementis in armō  
 Inachides ferrum curvo tenus abdidit hamo.  
 vulnere laesa gravi modo se sublimis in auras  
 attollit, modo subdit aquis, modo more ferocis 60  
 versat apri, quem turba canum circumsona terret.  
 ille avidos morsus velocibus effugit alis :  
 quaque patet, nunc terga cavis super obsita conchis,  
 nunc laterum costas, nunc qua tenuissima cauda  
 desinit in piscem, falcato verberat ense. 65  
 belua puniceo mixtos cum sanguine fluctus  
 ore vomit. maduere graves aspergine pennae.  
 nec bibulis ultra Perseus talaribus ausus  
 credere conspexit scopulum, qui vertice summo  
 stantibus extat aquis, operitur ab aequore moto. 70  
 nixus eo rupisque tenens juga prima sinistra  
 ter quater exegit repetita per ilia ferrum.  
 litora cum plausu clamor superasque deorum  
 implevere domos. gaudent, generumque salutant,  
 auxiliumque domus servatoremque fatentur 75  
 Cassiope Cepheusque pater. resoluta catenis  
 incedit virgo, pretiumque et causa laboris.

<sup>1</sup> immisso.

III.—*The Tale of Cephalus and Procris.*

Cephalus describes to Phocus the mutual joys of his wedded life with Procris, which preceded his great sorrow (1—9). At daybreak he used to go to the chase alone, armed with a single dart (9—13). At noon he would rest in the shade, and passionately invoke Aura (the breeze) to come to his bosom, wooing her thither as his "darling" and "delight" (13—26). These words, overheard by one who fancied them addressed to some nymph with whom Cephalus was enamoured, were conveyed to the ears of Procris (26—31). Distracted and perplexed, she now believes the story, now doubts its evidences, and ends by resolving not to believe in her husband's infidelity unless she witnesses it herself (31—40). Next day Cephalus, wearied with his morning chase, was reposing at noon, and invoking Aura as before, when he heard near him something like a groan; this being followed by the sound of a falling spray, he fancied it an animal and discharged his dart (40—47). A shriek told him it had lodged in the heart of the listening Procris. Rushing to her, he lifts her, dying and bathed in blood, tries to staunch her wound, and conjures her not to leave him (47—56). She replies by one last request that he would not wed Aura at her death (56—62). Cephalus perceives and explains her mistake, but she dies, though happier, rendering him her last look and latest breath (62—68).

Gaudia principium nostri sunt, Phoece, doloris.  
 illa prius referam. juvat o meminisse beati  
 temporis, Aeacida, quo primos rite per annos  
 conjugē eram felix, felix erat illa marito.  
 mutua cura duos et amor socialis habebat. 5  
 nec Jovis illa meo thalamos praeferret amori,  
 nec, me quae caperet, non si Venus ipsa veniret,  
 ulla erat. aequales urebant pectora flammæ.  
 sole fere radiis feriente cacumina primis  
 venatum in silvas juveniliter ire solebam : 10  
 nec mecum famulos, nec equos, nec naribus acres  
 ire canes, nec lina sequi nodosa sinebam :  
 tutus eram jaculo. sed cum satiata ferinae  
 dextera caedis erat, repetebam frigus et umbras,  
 et quae de gelidis exhalat vallibus, auram. 15  
 Aura petebatur medio mihi lenis in aestu :  
 Auram expectabam. requies erat illa labori.



"Aura," recordor enim, "venias" cantare solebam,  
 "meque juves, intresque sinus, gratissima, nostros :  
 utque facis, relevare velis, quibus urimur, aestus." 20  
 forsitan addiderim...sic me mea fata trahebant...  
 blanditias plures et "tu mihi magna voluptas"  
 dicere sim solitus, "tu me reficisque fovesque :  
 tu facis, ut silvas, ut amem loca sola. meoque  
 spiritus iste tuus semper captatur ab ore." 25  
 vocibus ambiguus deceptam praebeuit aurem  
 nescio quis. nomenque aurae tam saepe vocatum  
 esse putans nymphae, nympham mihi credit amari.  
 criminis extemplo ficti temerarius index  
 Procrin adit, linguaue refert audita susurra. 30  
 credula res amor est. subito conlapsa<sup>1</sup> dolore,  
 ut sibi narratur, cecidit. longoque refecta  
 tempore se miseram, se fati dixit iniqui :  
 deque fide questa est, et crimine concita vano  
 quod nihil est, metuit, metuit sine corpore nomen, 35  
 et dolet infelix veluti de pellice<sup>2</sup> vera.  
 saepe tamen dubitat, speratque miserrima falli,  
 indicioque fidem negat, et, nisi viderit ipsa,  
 damnatura sui non est delicta mariti.  
 postera depulerant Aurorae lumina noctem : 40  
 egredior, silvamque peto. victorque per herbas  
 "Aura veni" dixi, "nostroque medere labori..."  
 et subito gemitus inter mea verba videbar  
 nescio quos audisse. "veni" tamen "optima!" dixi.  
 fronde levem rursus strepitum faciente caduca 45  
 sum ratus esse feram, telumque volatile misi.  
 Procris erat. medioque tenens in pectore vulnus,  
 "ei<sup>3</sup> mihi!" conclamat. vox est ubi cognita fidae  
 conjugis, ad vocem praeceps amensque cucurri.  
 semianimem et sparsas foedantem sanguine vestes 50  
 et sua, me miserum! de vulnere dona trahentem  
 invenio, corpusque meo mihi carius ulnis  
 mollibus attollo, scissaque a pectore veste  
 vulnera saeva ligo, conorque inhibere cruorem,

<sup>1</sup> collapsa.<sup>2</sup> pellice.<sup>3</sup> Hei.



neu me morte sua sceleratum deserat, oro. 55  
 viribus illa carens et jam moribunda coëgit  
 haec se pauca loqui: "per nostri foedera lecti,  
 perque deos supplex oro superosque meosque,  
 per siquid merui de te bene, perque manentem  
 nunc quoque, cum pereo, causam mihi mortis, amorem,  
 ne thalamis Auram patiare innubere nostris." 61  
 dixit. et errorem tum denique nominis esse  
 et sensi, et docui. sed quid docuisse iuvabat?  
 labitur, et parvae fugiunt cum sanguine vires.  
 dumque aliquid spectare potest, me spectat: et in me  
 infelicem animam nostroque exhalat in ore. 66  
 sed vultu meliore mori secunda videtur.

#### IV.—*The Tale of Pygmalion and the Image.*

Pygmalion, king of Cyprus, in disgust at female vice, lived a long while unmarried (1—5), but presently fell in love with an exquisite figure which he had carved in ivory, so real and life-like that modesty alone seemed to prevent its moving (5—12). He would oftentimes feel it, and kiss it, and fancy his kisses returned, and be afraid that the pressure of his fingers may hurt (12—17). He brings it presents, he dresses, and decks it with earrings, and necklace and gems, and lays it on a couch with downy pillows (17—28). On the holiday of Venus, Pygmalion, after sacrificing, prays the goddess to grant to him a wife exactly resembling the statue he had designed (28—35). Venus shows that his prayer was heard (35—38). Pygmalion returning home, bends over and kisses the recumbent statue (38—39). It feels warm and soft to the touch, and the form grows beneath his fingers into flesh with its beating pulses (39—48). The grateful lover finds his kisses awaken a blush on the ivory cheeks, while the eyes open for the first time to welcome light and love (48—53). After nine moons Venus grants her a son, who gives his name to the isle of Paphos (53—56).

Quas quia Pygmalion aevum per crimen agentes  
 viderat, offensus vitiis, quae plurima menti  
 femineae natura dedit, sine conjuge caelebs  
 vivebat, thalamique diu consorte carebat.  
 interea niveum mira feliciter arte 5  
 sculpsit ebur, formamque dedit, qua femina nasci

nulla potest. operisque sui concepit amorem.  
 virginis est verae facies, quam vivere credas,  
 et, si non obstat reverentia, velle moveri.  
 ars adeo latet arte sua. miratur, et haurit 10  
 pectore Pygmalion simulati corporis ignes.  
 saepe manus operi temptantes<sup>1</sup> admovet, an sit  
 corpus, an illud ebur. nec adhuc ebur esse fatetur :  
 oscula dat, reddique putat. loquiturque, tenetque,  
 et credit tactis digitos insidere membris : 15  
 et metuit, pressos veniat ne livor in artus.  
 et modo blanditias adhibet, modo grata puellis  
 munera fert illi, conchas teretesque lapillos,  
 et parvas volucres, et flores mille colorum,  
 liliaque pictasque pilas et ab arbore lapsas 20  
 Heliadum lacrimas. ornat quoque vestibus artus :  
 dat digitis gemmas, dat longa monilia collo.  
 aure leves baccae,<sup>2</sup> redimicula pectore pendent.  
 cuncta decent. nec nuda minus formosa videtur.  
 collocat hanc stratis concha Sidonide tinctis, 25  
 appellatque tori sociam, acclinataque colla  
 mollibus in plumis, tamquam sensura, reponit.  
 festa dies Veneris tota celeberrima Cypro  
 venerat, et pandis inductae cornibus aurum  
 conciderant ictae nivea cervice juvencae, 30  
 turaque fumabant, cum munere functus ad aras  
 constitit et timide " Si di dare cuncta potestis,  
 sit conjunx,<sup>3</sup> opto," (non ausus " eburnea virgo "  
 dicere Pygmalion) " similis mea " dixit " eburnae."  
 sensit, ut ipsa suis aderat Venus aurea festis, 35  
 vota quid illa velint. et, amici numinis omen,  
 flamma ter accensa est, apicemque per aëra duxit.  
 ut rediit, simulacra suae petit ille puellae,  
 incumbensque toro dedit oscula. visa tepere est.  
 admovet os iterum, manibus quoque pectora temptat.<sup>4</sup> 40  
 temptatum mollescit ebur, positoque rigore  
 subsidit digitis, ceditque, ut Hymettia sole  
 cera remollescit, tractataque pollice multas

<sup>1</sup> tentantes.<sup>2</sup> baccac.<sup>3</sup> conjux.<sup>4</sup> tentat.

flectitur in facies, ipsoque fit utilis usu.  
 dum stupet, et dubie gaudet, fallique veretur, 45  
 rursus amans rursusque manu sua vota retractat.  
 corpus erat. saliunt temptatae pollice venae.  
 tum vero Paphius plenissima concipit heros  
 verba, quibus Veneri grates agat. oraque tandem  
 ore suo non falsa premit. dataque oscula virgo 50  
 sensit, et erubuit, timidumque ad lumina lumen  
 attollens pariter cum caelo vidit amantem.  
 conjugio, quod fecit, adest dea. jamque coactis  
 cornibus in plenum noviens<sup>1</sup> lunaribus orbem  
 illa Paphon genuit, de quo tenet insula nomen. 55

*V.—Speech of Ajax on claiming against Ulysses the arms of Achilles.*

The generals having taken their seats, Ajax rises, and, glancing fiercely at the shore and fleet, begins (1—5). "Dares Ulysses compare himself with me in the presence of those very ships, which, by him abandoned to the flames, were only rescued by me (5—9). He finds it safer to talk than fight; my strength lies rather in actions than in words (9—13). But no matter; my deeds are known too well to need description, while his are known only to night and to himself (13—16). The only drawback to my competing is the demerit of my competitor, who, even if he lose the prize, will gain the credit of having contested it with Ajax (16—21). But apart from worth, I have descent on my side, third in the line from Jove through Aeacus and Telamon (21—29), and thus by right of kin may claim Achilles' arms (29—31), while he, with the blood and guilt of Sisyphus in his veins, presumes to rank among the Aeacids (31—34)! What! am I, an early volunteer for the war, to be eclipsed by one who feigned insanity to avoid it, till a cleverer one than he discovered him, and forced him into service? Is he to have the prizes, who would have none of the perils of the war, and am I, who was the foremost, to lose even my rights (34—43)? O that madness had kept him altogether away! neither the guilt of the exposure of Philoctetes (Ulysses' crime), nor the hero's curse, would then be lying upon us, while he starves and pines in his island cave (43—55). Yet a worse fate was to befall Palamedes, falsely accused and convicted of treachery by those arts of Ulysses, that only serve to drain the strength of Greece (55—63). Nestor he abandoned in

<sup>1</sup> novies.

the veteran's hour of need, as the reproof of his own friend Diomed proved (63—70), and yet when he was abandoned in return, I shielded and preserved him (70—77). That scene let him revive now, and compete, if he can, with his preserver, crouching as he did then behind my shield, and feigning a wound, which did not prevent him the first moment from flying (77—82). In Hector's presence, Ulysses shuddered like the rest, while I met and overthrew him (82—87). At Hector's challenge, all hearts turned, not to him, but to me, who proved his match (87—91). When the Trojan torches threatened the fleet, it was I and not Ulysses repelled them (91—95). Yes. Ajax is wanted to reflect honour on the Arms, not the Arms on Ajax. These are but ill-suited for such exploits as those of Ulysses, done in the dark, done by aid of Diomed, who fairly might claim the larger share of them, if awarded at all to his ally (95—103). Nay, they would be useless to the coward; they would only serve to reveal his hiding-places; his head were too weak to bear Achilles' casque, his arms too feeble to wield that lance and shield, that would tempt rather than alarm the foe, while encumbering their owner's flight (103—117). Nor does he need them; for his shield is fresh and undinted; mine, worn and battered, wants another to replace it (117—120). After all, facts are better tests of men than words; put the Arms in the centre of the foe, and let them be the prize of whichever recovers them (120—123)."

Consedere duces et vulgi stante corona  
 surgit ad hos clipei dominus septemplicis Ajax.  
 utque erat impatiens irae, Sigeia torvo  
 litora respexit classemque in litore vultu,  
 intendensque manus 'agimus, pro<sup>1</sup> Juppiter!' inquit 5  
 'ante rates causam, et mecum confertur Ulixes!  
 at non Hectoreis dubitavit cedere flammis,  
 quas ego sustinui, quas hac a classe fugavi.  
 tutius est igitur fictis contendere verbis,  
 quam pugnare manu. sed nec mihi dicere promptum,  
 nec facere est isti. quantumque ego Marte feroci 11  
 inque acie valeo, tantum valet iste loquendo.  
 nec memoranda tamen vobis mea facta, Pelasgi,  
 esse reor. vidistis enim. sua narret Ulixes,  
 quae sine teste gerit, quorum nox conscia sola est. 15  
 praemia magna peti fateor. sed demit honorem

<sup>1</sup> proh.

aemulus. Ajaci non est tenuisse superbum,  
 sit licet hoc ingens, quicquid speravit Ulixes.  
 iste tulit pretium jam nunc certaminis hujus :  
 quo cum victus erit, mecum certasse feretur. 20  
 atque ego, si virtus in me dubitabilis esset,  
 nobilitate potens essem, Telamone creatus,  
 moenia qui forti Trojana sub Hercule cepit,  
 litoraue intravit Pagasaea Colcha carina.  
 Aeacus huic pater est, qui jura silentibus illic 25  
 reddit, ubi Aeoliden saxum grave Sisyphon urguet.<sup>1</sup>  
 Aeacon agnoscit summus, prolemque fatetur  
 Juppiter esse suam. sic ab Jove tertius Ajax.  
 nec tamen haec series in causam prosit, Achivi,  
 si mihi cum magno non est communis Achille. 30  
 frater erat. fraterna peto. quid sanguine cretus  
 Sisyphio, furtisque et fraude simillimus illi  
 inserit Aeacidis alienae nomina gentis ?  
 an-quod in arma prior, nulloque sub indice veni,  
 arma neganda mihi ? potiorque videbitur ille, 35  
 ultima qui cepit, detractavitque<sup>2</sup> furore  
 militiam ficto, donec sollertior isto,  
 sed sibi inutilior, timidi commenta retexit  
 Naupliades animi, vitataque traxit in arma ?  
 optima num sumat, quia sumere noluit ulla ? 40  
 nos inhonorati et donis patruelibus orbi,  
 obtulimus quia nos ad prima pericula, simus ?  
 atque utinam aut verus furor ille, aut creditus esset,  
 nec comes hic Phrygias umquam venisset ad arces  
 hortator scelerum ! non te, Poeantia proles, 45  
 expositum Lemnos nostro cum crimine haberet :  
 qui nunc, ut memorant, silvestribus abditus antris  
 saxa moves gemitu, Laërtiadaeque precaris  
 quae meruit, quae, si di sunt, non vana precaris.  
 et nunc ille eadem nobis juratus in arma, 50  
 heu ! pars una ducum, quo successore sagittae  
 Herculis utuntur, fractus morboque fameque  
 velaturque aliturque avibus, volucresque petendo

<sup>1</sup> urget.<sup>2</sup> detractavit.

debita Trojanis exercet spicula fatis.  
 ille tamen vivit, quia non comitavit Ulixen. 55  
 mallet et infelix Palamedes esse relictus :  
 viveret, aut certe letum sine crimine haberet.  
 quem male convicti nimium memor iste furoris  
 prodere rem Danaam finxit, fictumque probavit  
 crimen, et ostendit, quod jam praefoderat, aurum. 60  
 ergo aut exilio vires subduxit Achivis,  
 aut nece. sic pugnat, sic est metuendus Ulixes.  
 qui licet eloquio fidum quoque Nestora vincat,  
 haud tamen efficiet, desertum ut Nestora crimen  
 esse rear nullum. qui cum imploraret Ulixen 65  
 vulnere tardus equi, fessusque senilibus annis,  
 proditus a socio est. non haec mihi crimina fingi  
 scit bene Tydides, qui nomine saepe vocatum  
 corripuit, trepidoque fugam exprobravit amico.  
 aspiciunt oculis superi mortalia justis : 70  
 en eget auxilio, qui non tulit. utque reliquit,  
 sic linquendus erat. legem sibi dixerat ipse.  
 conclamat socios. adsum. videoque trementem  
 pallentemque metu et trepidantem morte futura.  
 opposui molem clipei, texique jacentem, 75  
 servavique animam...minimum est hoc laudis...inertem.  
 si perstas certare, locum redeamus in illum :  
 redde hostem, vulnusque tuum, solitumque timorem,  
 post clipeumque late, et mecum contende sub illo.  
 at postquam eripui, cui standi vulnere vires 80  
 non dederant, nullo tardatus vulnere fugit.  
 Hector adest, secumque deos in proelia ducit :  
 quaque ruit, non tu tantum terroris, Ulixen,  
 sed fortes etiam. tantum trahit ille timoris.  
 hunc ego sanguineae successu caedis ovantem 85  
 cominus ingenti resupinum pondere fudi :  
 hunc ego poscentem, cum quo concurreret, unus  
 sustinui. sortemque meam vovistis, Achivi,  
 et vestrae valuere preces. si quaeritis hujus  
 fortunam pugnae, non sum superatus ab illo. 90  
 ecce ferunt Troës ferrumque ignemque Jovemque  
 in Danaas classes. ubi nunc facundus Ulixes ?

nempe ego mille meo protexi pectore puppes,  
 spem vestri reditus. date tot pro navibus arma.  
 quod si vera licet mihi dicere, quaeritur istis, 95  
 quam mihi, major honos, conjunctaque gloria nostra  
 est :

atque Ajax armis, non Ajaci arma petuntur.  
 conferat his Ithacus Rhesum, imbellemque Dolona,  
 Priamidenque Helenum rapta cum Pallade captum.  
 luce nihil gestum, nihil est Diomede remoto. 100  
 si semel ista datis meritis tam vilibus arma,  
 dividite et pars sit major Diomedis in illis.  
 quo tamen haec Ithaco : qui clam, qui semper inermis  
 rem gerit et furtis incautum decipit hostem ?  
 ipse nitor galeae claro radiantis ab auro 105  
 insidiās prodet, manifestabitque latentem.  
 sed neque Dulichius sub Achillis casside vertex  
 pondera tanta feret, nec non onerosa gravisque  
 Pelias hasta potest inbellibus<sup>1</sup> esse lacertis,  
 nec clipeus, vasti caelatus imagine mundi, 110  
 conveniet timidæ nataeque ad furta sinistrae.  
 debilitaturum quid te petis, improbe, munus ?  
 quod tibi si populi donaverit error Achivi,  
 cur spolieris, erit, non cur metuaris ab hoste :  
 et fuga, qua sola cunctos, timidissime, vincis, 115  
 tarda futura tibi est gestamina tanta trahenti.  
 adde quod iste tuus, tam raro proelia passus,  
 integer est clipeus. nostro, qui tela ferendo  
 mille patet plagis, novus est successor habendus.  
 denique, quid verbis opus est? spectemur agendo !  
 arma viri fortis medios mittantur in hostes : 121  
 inde jubete peti, et referentem ornate relatis.'

VI.—*Speech of Ulysses in reply to Ajax, and the Decision.*

Ajax concludes amid applause ; Ulysses modestly rises and begins (123—128). " Would there were no contest for the Arms at all and Achilles were yet alive ! but being dead, who deserves to be his heir more than the man who brought him to the war ?

<sup>1</sup> imbellibus.

(128—135). Let not the dulness of Ajax weigh with you more than my public-spirited genius (135—140). As for such alien advantages as birth, I too am sprung from Jove and connected with Hermes (140—148), though it is merit rather than birth that should decide the cause; else should relationship be considered, then a father, a son, and another cousin may fairly put in their claims (148—159). My services are too numerous to tell, *e.g.*, my discovery of Achilles' disguise by placing arms among the presents brought him, and rousing him to throw off concealment and go and capture Troy (159—171). Hence all his feats are indirectly mine—cities taken, heroes wounded, and Hector himself slain (171—181). When Agamemnon refused the sacrifice of Iphigenia, I won over her father by words and her mother by stratagem, neither of which could Ajax have succeeded in (181—196). I went select ambassador to Troy, and, at the peril of my life, denounced, with Menelaus, the crime of Paris (196—205). For nine long years of inactive siege, while Ajax, fit only for the fight, lay useless and idle, I was engaged in planning and fortifying, and comforting and providing (205—216). Nay, more—when it was proposed to raise the siege and withdraw, while Ajax could only remonstrate and at last give way, I by my eloquence recalled the fugitives (216—230), and in the council, while Ajax held his peace, I rebuked Thersites and rallied the spirits of my countrymen, whose success afterwards is fairly due to me (230—238). You, Ajax, no Greek regarded: I was Diomed's chosen and trusty comrade (238—243). With him I slew Dolon (having first wrung out his secret), Rhesus, and others beside (243—262). Many a noble scar have I, but not a drop of his blood has Ajax shed in your service (262—268). True, he defended the fleet, but this was as much the work of Patroclus (268—275). True, he fought in single combat with Hector, but that was a privilege, which, save for the lot, eight others might have won, and then he let Hector escape unhurt (275—280). It was I too that bore Achilles' corpse, and now may ask to bear his arms (280—286), for I have a soul as well to appreciate them, while Ajax is too dull to understand even the device of the sculptured shield (286—296). What, if at first I kept aloof from the war? so did Achilles; yes, mother and wife claimed our first services: the rest have been devoted to you, my countrymen, and not least my ingenious discovery of Achilles (296—306). In accusing *me* of Palamedes' death he arraigns *your* just verdict (306—313). We are all responsible too for the exposure of Philoctetes, who is benefited by the repose he needed (313—320). If he is to be restored let Ajax try and win him back; that he never can, but *I* will, as sure as I have succeeded in like schemes before (320—339). Remember the Palladium, how, when Ajax



hung back, I risked all to gain it, and therewith the means of overthrowing Troy (339—350). Though in that Diomed aided me, just as others have aided Ajax, yet he presumes not to compete with me for the Arms any more than Oilean Ajax, or the rest, who know how to place counsel above strength (350—361). Ajax is all body, I am mind and soul as well, as superior to him as the pilot to the oarsman (361—370). So then, in gratitude to your guardian, by all I have done, or yet may do, bestow the Arms on me, or at least (exhibiting the Palladium) on this (370—382)."

Ajax loses the Arms, and in anguish, seizes his sword, and, welcoming it with his last words, plants it deep in his heart. From the blood springs up a flower, bearing on its leaves his name (382—399).

Finierat Telamone satus. vulgique secutum  
ultima murmur erat. donec Lærtius heros  
astitit, atque oculos paulum tellure moratos 125  
sustulit ad proceres expectatoque resolvit  
ora sono. neque abest facundis gratia dictis.  
'si mea cum vestris valuissent vota, Pelasgi,  
non foret ambiguus tanti certaminis heres,  
tuque tuis armis, nos te poteremur, Achille. 130  
quem quoniam non aequa mihi vobisque negarunt  
fata,'...manuque simul veluti lacrimantia tersit  
lumina...'quis magno melius succedat Achilli,  
quam per quem magnus Danaïs successit Achilles?  
huic modo ne prosit, quod, uti est, hebes esse videtur:  
neve mihi noceat, quod vobis semper, Achivi, 136  
profuit ingenium meaue haec facundia, siqua est,  
quae nunc pro domino, pro vobis saepe locuta est,  
invidia careat. bona nec sua quisque recuset.  
nam genus et proavos et quae non fecimus ipsi, 140  
vix ea nostra voco. sed enim, quia rettulit Ajax  
esse Jovis pronepos, nostri quoque sanguinis auctor  
Juppiter<sup>1</sup> est, totidemque gradus distamus ab illo.  
nam mihi Lærtēs pater est, Arcesius illi,  
Juppiter<sup>1</sup> huic. neque in his quisquam damnatus et  
exul. 145  
est quoque per matrem Cyllenius addita nobis

<sup>1</sup> Jupiter.

altera nobilitas. deus est in utroque parente.  
sed neque materno quod sum generosior ortu,  
nec mihi quod pater est fraterni sanguinis insons,  
proposita arma peto. meritis expendite causam. 150  
dummodo quod fratres Telamon Peleusque fuerunt  
Ajacis meritum non sit, nec sanguinis ordo,  
sed virtutis honor spoliis quaeratur in istis.  
aut si proximitas primusque requiritur heres,  
est genitor Peleus, est Pyrrhus filius illi. 155  
quis locus Ajaci? Phthiam haec Scyronve ferantur.  
nec minus est isto Teucer patruelis Achilli.  
num petit ille tamen, num, si petat, auferat illa?  
ergo operum quoniam nudum certamen habetur,  
plura quidem feci quam quae comprehendere dictis 160  
in promptu mihi sit. rerum tamen ordine ducar.  
praescia venturi genitrix Nereïa leti  
dissimulat cultu natum. deceperat omnes,  
in quibus Ajacem, sumptae fallacia vestis.  
arma ego femineis, animum motura virilem, 165  
mercibus inserui. neque adhuc projecerat heros  
virgineos habitus, cum parmam hastamque tenenti  
"nata dea," dixi "tibi se peritura reservant  
Pergama. quid dubitas ingentem evertere Trojam?"  
injecique manum, fortemque ad fortia misi. 170  
ergo opera illius mea sunt. ego Telephon hasta  
pugnantem domui. victum orantemque refeci.  
quod Thebae cecidere, meum est. me credite Lesbon,  
me Tenedon, Chrysenque, et Cillan, Apollinis urbes,  
et Scyron cepisse. mea concussa putate 175  
procubuisse solo Lyrnesia moenia dextra.  
utque alios taceam, qui saevum perdere posset  
Hectora, nempe dedi. per me jacet inclitus Hector.  
illis haec armis, quibus est inventus Achilles,  
arma peto. vivo dederam, post fata reposco. 180  
ut dolor unius Danaos pervenit ad omnes,  
Aulidaque Euboicam complerunt mille carinae,  
expectata diu, nulla aut contraria classi  
flamina sunt. duraeque jubent Agamemnona sortes  
inmeritam saevae natam mactare Dianae. 185

denegat hoc genitor, divisque irascitur ipsis,  
 atque in rege tamen pater est. ego mite parentis  
 ingenium verbis ad publica commoda verti.  
 nunc equidem fateor, fassoque ignoscat Atrides :  
 difficilem tenui sub iniquo iudice causam. 190  
 hunc tamen utilitas populi fraterque datique  
 summa movet sceptri, laudem ut cum sanguine penset.  
 mittor et ad matrem, quae non hortanda, sed astu  
 decipienda fuit. quo si Telamonius isset,  
 orba suis essent etiam nunc lintea ventis. 195  
 mittor et Iliacas audax orator ad arces,  
 visaque et intrata est altae mihi curia Trojae :  
 plenaque adhuc erat illa viris. interritus egi  
 quam mihi mandarat communis Graecia causam,  
 accusoque Parin, praedamque Helenamque reposco  
 et moveo Priamum Priamoque Antenora junctum. 201  
 at Paris et fratres et qui rapuere sub illo,  
 vix tenere manus...scis hoc, Menelaë !...nefandas,...  
 primaque lux nostri tecum fuit illa pericli.  
 longa referre mora est, quae consilioque manuque 205  
 utiliter feci spatiosi tempore belli.  
 post acies primas urbis se moenibus hostes  
 continuere diu, nec aperti copia Martis  
 ulla fuit. decimo demum pugnavimus anno.  
 quid facis interea, qui nil, nisi proelia, nosti ? 210  
 quis tuus usus erat ? nam si mea facta requiris,  
 hostibus insidior, fossas munimine cingo,  
 consolor socios, ut longi taedia belli  
 mente ferant placida. doceo, quo simus alendi  
 armandique modo. mittor, quo postulat usus. 215  
 ecce Jovis monitu, deceptus imagine somni,  
 rex jubet incoepti<sup>1</sup> curam dimittere belli.  
 ille potest auctore suam defendere vocem.  
 non sinat hoc Ajax, delendaque Pergama poscat, 219  
 quodque potest, pugnet ! cur non remoratur ituros ?  
 cur non arma capit, dat, quod vaga turba sequatur ?  
 non erat hoc nimium numquam nisi magna loquenti.

<sup>1</sup> incepti.

quid quod et ipse fugit? vidi, puduitque videre,  
 cum tu terga dares, inhonestaque vela parares.  
 nec mora, "quid facitis? quae vos dementia" dixi  
 "concitat, o socii, captam dimittere Trojam?" 226  
 quidve domum fertis decimo, nisi dedecus, anno?"  
 talibus atque aliis, in quae dolor ipse disertum  
 fecerat, aversos profuga de classe reduxi.  
 convocat Atrides socios terrore paventes : 230  
 nec Telamoniades etiam nunc hiscere quicquam  
 audet. at ausus erat reges incessere dictis  
 Thersites, etiam per me haud impune, protervis.  
 erigor, et trepidos cives exhortor in hostem,  
 amissamque mea virtutem voce reposco. 235  
 tempore ab hoc, quodcumque potest fecisse videri  
 fortiter iste, meum est, qui dantem terga retraxi.  
 denique de Danais quis te laudatve petitve?  
 at sua Tydides mecum communicat acta,  
 me probat, et socio semper confidit Ulixæ. 240  
 est aliquid, de tot Graiorum milibus<sup>1</sup> unum  
 a Diomede legi. nec me sors ire jubebat :  
 sic tamen et spreto noctisque hostisque periculo  
 ausum eadem, quae nos, Phrygia de gente Dolona  
 interimio : non ante tamen, quam cuncta coëgi 245  
 prodere, et edidici, quid perfida Troja pararet.  
 omnia cognoram, nec, quod specularer, habebam :  
 et jam promissa poteram cum laude reverti.  
 haud contentus eo petii tentoria Rhesi,  
 inque suis ipsum castris comitesque peremi : 250  
 atque ita captivo victor votisque potitus  
 ingredior curru laetos imitante triumphos.  
 cujus equos pretium pro nocte poposcerat hostis,  
 arma negare mihi, fueritque benignior Ajax !  
 quid Lycii referam Sarpedonis agmina ferro 255  
 devastata meo? cum multo sanguine fudi  
 Coeranon Iphitiden et Alastoraque Chromiumque  
 Alcandrumque Haliumque Noëmonaque Prytaninque,  
 exitioque dedi cum Chersidamante Thoona,  
 et Charopem, fatisque inimitibus<sup>2</sup> Ennomon actum, 260

<sup>1</sup> millibus.<sup>2</sup> immitibus.

quique minus celebres nostra sub moenibus urbis  
 procubuere manu. sunt et mihi vulnera, cives,  
 ipso pulchra loco. nec vanis credite verbis.  
 aspice en !' vestemque manu diduxit et 'haec sunt  
 pectora semper' ait 'vestris exercita rebus. 265  
 at nil inpendit<sup>1</sup> per tot Telamonius annos  
 sanguinis in socios, et habet sine vulnere corpus.  
 quid tamen hoc refert, si se pro classe Pelasga  
 arma tulisse refert contra Troasque Jovemque?  
 confiteorque, tulit. neque enim benefacta maligne 270  
 detractare<sup>2</sup> meum est. sed ne communia solus  
 occupet, atque aliquem vobis quoque reddat honorem.  
 repulit Actorides sub imagine tutus Achillis  
 Troas ab arsuris cum defensore carinis.  
 ausum etiam Hectoreo solum concurrere Marti 275  
 se putat, oblitus regisque ducumque meique,  
 nonus in officio, et praelatus munere sortis.  
 sed tamen eventus vestrae, fortissime, pugnae  
 quis fuit? est Hector violatus vulnere nullo.  
 me miserum, quanto cogor meminisse dolore 280  
 temporis illius, quo Graium murus Achilles  
 procubuit ! nec me lacrimae luctusve timorve  
 tardarunt, quin corpus humo sublime referrem.  
 his humeris, his, inquam, humeris ego corpus Achillis,  
 et simul arma tuli, quae nunc quoque ferre laboro. 285  
 sunt mihi, quae valeant in talia pondera, vires.  
 est animus certe vestros sensurus honores.  
 scilicet idcirco pro gnato caerulea mater  
 ambitiosa suo fuit, ut caelestia dona,  
 artis opus tantae, rudis et sine pectore miles 290  
 indueret? neque enim clipei caelamina norit,  
 oceanum et terras, cumque alto sidera caelo,  
 Pleiadasque, Hyadasque immunemque aequoris Arcton  
 diversasque urbes, nitidumque Orionis ense.  
 postulat, ut capiat, quae non intellegit,<sup>3</sup> arma. 295  
 quid quod me, duri fugientem munera belli,  
 arguit incepto<sup>4</sup> serum accessisse labori,

<sup>1</sup> inpendit,    <sup>2</sup> detractare.    <sup>3</sup> intelligit.    <sup>4</sup> incepto.

nec se magnanimo maledicere sentit Achilli?  
 si simulasse vocas crimen, simulavimus ambo.  
 si mora pro culpa est, ego sum maturior illo. 300  
 me pia detinuit conjux,<sup>1</sup> pia mater Achillem :  
 primumque sunt illis data tempora, cetera vobis.  
 haud timeo, si jam nequeo defendere crimen  
 cum tanto commune viro. deprensus Ulixes  
 ingenio tamen ille, at non Ajacis Ulixes. 305  
 neve in me stolidae convicia fundere linguae  
 admiremur eum : vobis quoque digna pudore  
 obicit.<sup>2</sup> an falso Palameden crimine turpe  
 accusasse mihi, vobis damnasse decorum est?  
 sed neque Naupliades facinus defendere tantum 310  
 tamque patens valuit, nec vos audistis in illo  
 crimina. vidistis, pretioque objecta patebant.  
 nec Poeantiaden quod habet Vulcania Lemnos,  
 esse reus merui. factum defendite vestrum :  
 consensistis enim. nec me suasisse negabo, 315  
 ut se subtraheret bellicae viaeque labori,  
 temptaretque feros requie lenire dolores.  
 paruit, et vivit. non haec sententia tantum  
 fida, sed et felix : cum sit satis, esse fidelem.  
 quem quoniam vates delenda ad Pergama poscunt, 320  
 ne mandate mihi. melius Telamonius ibit,  
 eloquioque virum morbis ira furentem  
 molliet, aut aliqua producet callidus arte.  
 ante retro Simois fluet, et sine frondibus Ide  
 stabit, et auxilium promittet Achaia Trojae, 325  
 quam, cessante meo pro vestris pectore rebus,  
 Ajacis stolidi Danaïs sollertia prorsit.  
 sis licet infestus sociis, regique, mihique,  
 dure Philoctete : licet execrere,<sup>4</sup> meumque  
 devoveas sine fine caput, cupiasque dolenti 330  
 me tibi forte dari, nostrumque haurire cruorem :  
 utque tui mihi, sic fiat tibi copia nostri :  
 te tamen aggrediar, mecumque reducere nitari :  
 tamque tuis potiar, faveat Fortuna, sagittis,

<sup>1</sup> conjux.<sup>2</sup> objicit.<sup>3</sup> tentaret.<sup>4</sup> execrere.

quam sum Dardanio, quem cepi, vate potitus : 335  
 quam responsa deum Trojanaque fata retexi :  
 quam rapui Phrygiae signum penetrale Minervae  
 hostibus e mediis. et se mihi comparat Ajax ?  
 nempe capi Trojam prohibebant fata sine illo.  
 fortis ubi est Ajax ? ubi sunt ingentia magni 340  
 verba viri ? cur hic metuis ? cur audet Ulixes  
 ire per excubias, et se committere nocti ?  
 perque feros enses non tantum moenia Troum,  
 verum etiam summas arces intrare, suaque  
 eripere aede deam, raptamque adferre per hostes ? 345  
 quae nisi fecissem, frustra Telamone creatus  
 gestasset laeva taurorum tergora septem.  
 illa nocte mihi Trojae victoria parva est.  
 Pergama tunc vici, cum vinci posse coëgi.  
 desine Tydiden vultuque et murmure nobis 350  
 ostentare meum. pars est sua laudis in illo.  
 nec tu, cum socia clipeum pro classe tenebas,  
 solus eras. tibi turba comes, mihi contigit unus.  
 qui nisi pugnacem sciret sapiente minorem  
 esse, nec indomitae deberi praemia dextrae, 355  
 ipse quoque haec peteret : peteret moderatior Ajax,  
 Eurypylosque ferox, claroque Andraemone natus :  
 nec minus Idomeneus, patriaque creatus eadem  
 Meriones. peteret majoris frater Atridae.  
 quippe manu fortes, nec sunt mihi Marte secundi : 360  
 consiliis cessere meis. tibi dextera bello  
 utilis. ingenium est, quod eget moderamine nostro.  
 tu vires sine mente geris. mihi cura futuri.  
 tu pugnare potes. pugnandi tempora mecum  
 eligit Atrides. tu tantum corpore prodes : 365  
 nos animo. quantoque ratem qui temperat, anteit  
 remigis officium, quanto dux milite major :  
 tantum ego te supero. nec non in corpore nostro  
 pectora sunt potiora manu. vigor omnis in illis.  
 at vos, o procures, vigili date praemia vestro : 370  
 proque tot annorum cura, quibus anxius egi,  
 hunc titulum meritis pensandum reddite nostris.  
 jam labor in fine est. obstantia fata removi,

altaque posse capi faciendo Pergama, cepi.  
 per spes nunc socias, casuraque moenia Troum, 375  
 perque deos oro, quos hosti nuper ademi,  
 per siquid superest, quod sit sapienter agendum,  
 si quid adhuc audax, ex praecipitique petendum est,  
 si Trojae fatis aliquid restare putatis :  
 este mei memores ! aut si mihi non datis arma, 380  
 huic date,' et ostendit signum fatale Minervae.

Mota manus procerum est. et quid facundia posset,  
 re patuit : fortisque viri tulit arma disertus.  
 Hectora qui solus, qui ferrum, ignesque, Jovemque  
 sustinuit totiens,<sup>1</sup> unam non sustinet iram : 385  
 invictumque virum vincit dolor. arripit ensem,  
 et 'meus hic certe est. an et hunc sibi poscit Ulixes?  
 hoc' ait 'utendum est in me mihi. quique cruore  
 saepe Phrygum maduit, domini nunc caede madebit,  
 ne quisquam Ajacem possit superare, nisi Ajax.' 390  
 dixit. et in pectus tum demum vulnera passum  
 qua patuit ferro, letalem condidit ensem.  
 nec valuere manus infixum educere telum :  
 expulit ipse cruor. rubefactaque sanguine tellus  
 purpureum viridi genuit de cespite florem, 395  
 qui prius Oebalio fuerat de vulnere natus.  
 litera communis mediis pueroque viroque  
 inscripta est foliis, haec nominis, illa querellae.<sup>2</sup>

### VII.—*Pythagorean Philosophy.*

Here dwelt Pythagoras, a voluntary exile from his native Samos, communing with the Gods, and publicly teaching his discoveries of natural phenomena and their causes (1-13). He was the first, too, to denounce the use of animal food (13-16). "Plenty of other nourishment," he argued, "had Nature bestowed on man; it was only a few wild beasts that appeased hunger in the barbarous and unnatural way of supporting their own lives by destroying those of others (16-37). Vegetable diet satisfied the Golden Age, when the animals lived secure (37-44). The beginning of animal food was the beginning of bloodshed, which confined itself at first to destroying harmful

<sup>1</sup> toties.

<sup>2</sup> querelae.



creatures like the pig and the goat ; but soon the innocent and useful sheep and ox fell victims to the greed of those who were nourished and clothed by them (44—68). Worse still, religion was used to consecrate the enormity, and the noblest beasts were decked for the sacrifice, and their entrails searched for omens (68—79). O that men would reflect what they do in devouring the creatures that till their fields !" (79—84). But the sage, inspired as he is, must go farther and reveal things kept secret before, and rescue men from error and the fear of death (84—94). "Why," cried he, "dread such mere visions as Death and Hades? Souls cannot die ; they only leave one body to enter another, as I know by experience, who was once Euphorbus, and recognised the shield I in his person bore (94—106). Death is mere change ; the breath goes forth from one body to enter another (be it human or animal), but beneath different shapes the soul remains substantially the same (106—114). Hence the horror of killing creatures tenanted, it may be, by kindred souls (114—117). But one may go farther and say, that not souls alone, but all things shift and pass—night and day, the hues of the sky and sun, and the shapes of the moon (117—140). The seasons of the year change in correspondence with the ages of man, Spring answering to Youth, Summer to Prime, Autumn to Maturity, and Winter to Old Age (140—155). Yes ! our bodies are always undergoing transformation, from the embryo through the unsteady limbs of infancy and the well-knit frame of youth down to the weak and withered form of old age—Milo weeping over his shrunken arms, and wrinkled Helen marvelling how she could have charmed her lovers (155—175). But time corrodes all, nor can the four elements even retain their nature (175—180). Earth passes into Water, Water into Air, Air into Fire, and *vice versa* : nothing dies or is born anew, but everything undergoes transformation (180—200). Land becomes sea, and sea land ; plains turn into valleys, and hills into plains (200—211) ; springs break out here, and dry up there (211—222). Qualities of water alter in many ways (222—228). Position of water changes, making islands out of continents, and the reverse (228—237). A level plain near Trœzen has swollen into a hill, through the expansion of confined air (237—249). Springs have changing temperatures, and various effects in igniting, petrifying, and colouring objects ; some affect minds to insanity, coma, and the like ; some again are harmless by day and injurious by night (249—276). So, too, islands and rocks, once moveable, are now stationary ; volcanoes become extinct, the internal fire making new openings, or the sparks not catching during the pauses of the central winds, or the supply of fiery material decaying through time (276—297). Feathers have grown on persons by bathing

in a particular marsh, or by the use of certain drugs (297—302). Decaying matter will produce animal life, as in the case of bees, etc. (302—320). Growth, too, like birth, is merely the passing from shapelessness into shape, and from one shape into another; a cub has to be licked into its proper form; bees develop limbs; and the gorgeous peacock issues from a mere egg (320—332). Self-production is a greater marvel still, as is the case with the Phoenix (332—349). Nations and governments, too, rise, fall, and change (349—362). Troy reappears in rising Rome, one day to be mistress of the world, as I can remember Helenus predicting to Aeneas (362—384). Thus, then, shifting spirits in a shifting world as we are, let us abstain from, and reverence, those animal bodies, that are often the tabernacles of human souls (384—394). To kill such innocents is heartless and demoralizing; let us use, but not destroy them; or, if they must be destroyed, let us not be so unnatural as to feed on them (394—410)."

Vir fuit hic, ortu Samius. sed fugerat una  
et Samon et dominos, odioque tyrannidis exul  
sponte erat. isque, licet caeli regione remotus,  
mente deos adiit, et quae natura negabat  
visibus humanis, oculis ea pectoris hausit. 5  
cumque animo et vigili perspexerat omnia cura,  
in medium discenda dabat. coetusque silentum  
dictaque mirantum magni primordia mundi  
et rerum causas et quid natura, docebat :  
quid deus, unde nives, quae fulminis esset origo, 10  
Juppiter<sup>1</sup> an venti discussa nube tonarent,  
quid quateret terras, qua sidera lege mearent,  
et quodcumque latet. primusque animalia mensis  
arguit inponi.<sup>2</sup> primus quoque talibus ora  
docta quidem solvit, sed non et credita, verbis : 15  
'parcite, mortales, dapibus temerare nefandis  
corpora ! sunt fruges, sunt deducunt ramos  
pondere poma suo, tumidaeque in vitibus uvae :  
sunt herbae dulces, sunt quae mitescere flamma  
mollirique queant. nec vobis lacteus humor 20  
eripitur, nec mella thymi redolentia flore.  
prodiga divitias alimentaque mitia tellus

<sup>1</sup> Jupiter.<sup>2</sup> imponi.

suggerit, atque epulas sine caede et sanguine praebet.  
 carne ferae sedant jejunia, nec tamen omnes.  
 quippe equus et pecudes armentaque gramine vivunt: 25  
 at quibus ingenium est inmansuetumque<sup>1</sup> ferumque,  
 Armeniaeque tigres iracundique leones,  
 cumque lupis ursi, dapibus cum sanguine gaudent.  
 heu quantum scelus est in viscera viscera condi,  
 congestoque avidum pingescere corpore corpus, 30  
 alteriusque animantem animantis vivere leto!  
 scilicet in tantis opibus, quas optima matrum  
 terra parit, nil te nisi tristia mandere saevo  
 vulnera dente juvat, ritusque referre Cyclopum?  
 nec, nisi perdidideris alium, placare voracis 35  
 et male morati poteris jejunia ventris?  
 at vetus illa aetas, cui fecimus aurea nomen,  
 fetibus arboreis et quas humus educat, herbis  
 fortunata fuit, nec polluit ora cruore.  
 tunc et aves tutae movere per aëra pennas, 40  
 et lepus inpavidus<sup>2</sup> mediis erravit in herbis,  
 nec sua credulitas piscem suspenderat hamo:  
 cuncta sine insidiis nullamque timentia fraudem  
 plenaque pacis erant. postquam non utilis auctor  
 victibus invidit, quisquis fuit ille, deorum, 45  
 corporeasque dapes avidam demersit in alvum,  
 fecit iter sceleri. primoque e caede ferarum  
 incaluisse putem maculatum sanguine ferrum.  
 idque satis fuerat. nostrumque petentia letum  
 corpora missa neci salva pietate fatemur. 50  
 sed quam danda neci, tam non epulanda fuerunt.  
 longius inde nefas abiit, et prima putatur  
 hostia sus meruisse mori, quia semina pando  
 eruerit rostro, spemque interceperit anni.  
 vite caper morsa Bacchi mactandus ad aras 55  
 ducitur ultoris. nocuit sua culpa duobus.  
 quid meruistis, oves, placidum pecus, inque tuendos  
 natum homines, pleno quae fertis in ubere nectar,  
 mollia quae nobis vestras velamina lanas

<sup>1</sup> immansuetum.<sup>2</sup> impavidus.

praebetis, vitaeque magis, quam morte iuvatis ? 60  
 quid meruere boves, animal sine fraude dolisque,  
 innocuum, simplex, natum tolerare labores ?  
 immemor est demum, nec frugum munere dignus,  
 qui potuit curvi dempto modo pondere aratri 65  
 ruricolam mactare suum, qui trita labore  
 illa, quibus totiens<sup>1</sup> durum renovaverat arvum,  
 tot dederat messes, percussit colla securi.  
 nec satis est, quod tale nefas committitur. ipsos  
 inscripsere deos sceleri, numenque supernum 70  
 caede laboriferi credunt gaudere iuvenci.  
 victima labe carens et praestantissima forma...  
 nam placuisse nocet... vittis praesignis et auro  
 sistitur ante aras, auditque ignara precantem,  
 inponique suae videt inter cornua fronti  
 quas coluit, fruges, percussaque sanguine cultros 75  
 inficit in liquida praevisos forsitan unda.  
 protinus ereptas viventi pectore fibras  
 inspiciunt, mentesque deum scrutantur in illis.  
 unde fames homini vetitorum tanta ciborum est ?  
 audetis vesci, genus o mortale ? quod, oro, 80  
 ne facite, et monitis animos advertite nostris :  
 cumque boum dabitur caesorum membra palato,  
 mandere vos vestros scite et sentite colonos.  
 et quoniam deus ora movet, sequar ora moventem  
 rite deum, Delphosque meos ipsumque recludam. 85  
 aethera et augustae reserabo oracula mentis.  
 magna, nec ingeniis evestigata priorum,  
 quaeque diu latuere, canam. juvat ire per alta  
 astra. juvat terris et inertis sede relictis  
 nube vehi, validique humeris insistere Atlantis : 90  
 palantesque homines passim ac rationis egentes  
 despectare procul, trepidosque obitumque timentes  
 sic exhortari, seriemque evolvere fati.  
 O genus attonitum gelidae formidine mortis !  
 quid Styga, quid tenebras et nomina vana timetis, 95  
 materiem vatū, falsique pericula mundi ?

<sup>1</sup> toties.

corpora sive rogos flamma, seu tabe vetustas  
 abstulerit, mala posse pati non ulla putetis.  
 morte carent animae, semperque priore relictæ  
 sede novis domibus vivunt habitantque receptæ. 100  
 ipse ego... nam memini... Trojani tempore belli  
 Panthoïdes Euphorbus eram, cui pectore quondam  
 haesit in adverso gravis hasta minoris Atridae.  
 cognovi clipeum, laevæ gestamina nostræ,  
 nuper Abanteis templo Junonis in Argis. 105  
 omnia mutantur. nihil interit. errat, et illinc  
 huc venit, hinc illuc, et quoslibet occupat artus  
 spiritus, eque feris humana in corpora transit,  
 inque feras noster, nec tempore deperit ullo.  
 utque novis facilis signatur cera figuris, 110  
 nec manet ut fuerat, nec formas servat easdem,  
 sed tamen ipsa eadem est, animam sic semper eandem  
 esse, sed in varias doceo migrare figuras.  
 ergo...nec pietas sit victa cupidine ventris...  
 parcite, vaticinor, cognatas caede nefanda 115  
 exturbare animas, nec sanguine sanguis alatur.  
 et quoniam magno feror aequore, plenaque ventis  
 vela dedi : nihil est, toto quod perstet in orbe.  
 cuncta fluunt, omnisque vagans formatur imago.  
 ipsa quoque assiduo labuntur tempora motu, 120  
 non secus ac flumen. neque enim consistere flumen,  
 nec levis hora potest : sed ut unda impellitur unda,  
 urgueturque<sup>1</sup> eadem veniens urgueturque<sup>2</sup> priorem :  
 tempora sic fugiunt pariter, pariterque sequuntur : 124  
 et nova sunt semper. nam quod fuit ante, relictum est,  
 fitque, quod haud fuerat, momentaque cuncta novantur.  
 cernis et emersas in lucem tendere noctes,  
 et jubar hoc nitidum nigrae succedere nocti.  
 nec color est idem caelo, cum lassa quiete  
 cuncta jacent media, cumque albo Lucifer exit 130  
 clarus equo : rursusque alius, cum praevia lucis  
 tradendum Phoebo Pallantias inficit orbem.  
 ipse dei clipeus, terra cum tollitur ima,

<sup>1</sup> urgetur.<sup>2</sup> urget.

mane rubet, terraque rubet cum conditur ima :  
 candidus in summo est, melior natura quod illic 135  
 aetheris est, terraeque procua contagia fugit.  
 nec par aut eadem nocturnae forma Dianae  
 esse potest umquam : semperque hodierna sequente,  
 si crescit, minor est : major, si contrahit orbem.  
 quid ? non in species succedere quattuor<sup>1</sup> annum 140  
 aspicias, aetatis peragentem imitamina nostrae ?  
 nam tener et lactens puerique simillimus aevo  
 vere novo est. tunc herba nitens et roboris expers  
 turget, et insolida est, et spe delectat agrestes.  
 omnia tunc florent, florumque coloribus almus 145  
 ludit ager, neque adhuc virtus in frondibus ulla est.  
 transit in aetatem post ver robustior annus,  
 fitque valens juvenis. neque enim robustior aetas  
 ulla, nec uberior, nec quae magis ardeat ulla est.  
 excipit autumnus, posito fervore juventae 150  
 maturus mitisque inter juvenemque senemque  
 temperie medius, sparsus quoque tempora canis.  
 inde senilis hiems tremulo venit horrida passu,  
 aut spoliata suos, aut, quos habet, alba capillos.  
 nostra quoque ipsorum semper requieque sine ulla 155  
 corpora vertuntur. nec quod fuimusve sumusve,  
 cras erimus. fuit illa dies, qua semina tantum,  
 spesque hominum primae materna habitavimus alvo.  
 artifices natura manus admovit, et angi  
 corpora visceribus distentae condita matris 160  
 noluit, eque domo vacuas emisit in auras.  
 editus in lucem jacuit sine viribus infans :  
 mox quadrupes, ritumque tulit sua membra ferarum :  
 paulatimque tremens et nondum poplite firmo  
 constitit, adjutis aliquo conamine nervis. 165  
 inde valens veloxque fuit, spatiumque juventae  
 transit, et emensis medii quoque temporis annis  
 labitur occiduae per iter declive senectae.  
 subruit haec aevi demoliturque prioris  
 robora. fletque Milon senior, cum spectat inanes

<sup>1</sup> quattuor.

illos, qui fuerant solidorum mole tororum 171  
 Herculeis similes, fluidos pendere lacertos.  
 flet quoque, ut in speculo rugas aspexit aniles,  
 Tyndaris, et secum, cur sit bis rapta, requirit.  
 tempus edax rerum, tuque invidiosa vetustas, 175  
 omnia destruitis, vitiataque dentibus aevi  
 paulatim lenta consumitis omnia morte.

Haec quoque non perstant, quae nos elementa vocamus :

quasque vices peragant,...animos adhibete !...docebo.  
 quattuor aeternus genitalia corpora mundus 180  
 continet. ex illis duo sunt onerosa, suoque  
 pondere in inferius, tellus atque unda, feruntur :  
 et totidem gravitate carent, nulloque premente  
 alta petunt, aër atque aëre purior ignis.  
 quae quamquam spatio distant, tamen omnia fiunt 185  
 ex ipsis, et in ipsa cadunt. resolutaque tellus  
 in liquidas rarescit aquas : tenuatus in auras  
 aëraque humor abit : dempto quoque pondere rursus  
 in superos aër tenuissimus emicat ignes.  
 inde retro redeunt, idemque retexitur ordo. 190  
 ignis enim densum spissatus in aëra transit,  
 hic in aquas : tellus glomerata cogitur unda.  
 nec species sua cuique manet. rerumque novatrix  
 ex aliis alias reparat natura figuras.  
 nec perit in tanto quicquam, mihi credite, mundo, 195  
 sed variat, faciemque novat. nascique vocatur  
 incipere esse aliud, quam quod fuit ante : morique,  
 desinere illud idem. cum sint huc forsitan illa,  
 haec translata illuc, summa tamen omnia constant.  
 nil equidem durare diu sub imagine eadem 200  
 crediderim. sic ad ferrum venistis ab auro,  
 saecula. sic totiens<sup>1</sup> versa est fortuna locorum.  
 vidi ego quod fuerat quondam solidissima tellus,  
 esse fretum. vidi factas ex aequare terras,  
 et procul a pelago conchae jacuere marinae, 205  
 et vetus inventa est in montibus ancora summis:

<sup>1</sup> toties.

quodque fuit campus, vallem decursus aquarum  
 fecit. et eluvie mons est deductus in aequor :  
 eque paludosa siccis humus aret arenis :  
 quaeque sitim tulerant, stagnata paludibus hument. 210  
 hinc fontes natura novos emisit, at illic  
 clausit. et aut imi commota tremoribus orbis  
 flumina prosiliunt, aut excaecata residunt.  
 sic ubi terreno Lycus est epotus hiatu,  
 existit procul hinc, alioque renascitur ore. 215  
 sic modo conbibitur, modo tecto gurgite lapsus  
 redditur Argolicis ingens Erasinus in arvis.  
 et Mysum capitisque sui ripaeque prioris  
 paenituisse ferunt, alia nunc ire, Caicum.  
 nec non Sicanias volvens Amenanus arenas 220  
 nunc fluit, interdum suppressis fontibus aret.  
 ante bibebatur, nunc, quas contingere nolis,  
 fundit Anigros aquas, postquam, nisi vatibus omnis  
 eripienda fides, illic lavere Bimembres  
 vulnera, clavigeri quae fecerat Herculis arcus. 225  
 quid ? non et Scythicis Hypanis de montibus ortus,  
 qui fuerat dulcis, salibus vitatur amaris ?  
 fluctibus ambitae fuerant Antissa Pharosque  
 et Phoenissa Tyros : quarum nunc insula nulla est.  
 Leucada continuam veteres habuere coloni : 230  
 nunc freta circumēunt. Zancle quoque juncta fuisse  
 dicitur Italiae, donec confinia pontus  
 abstulit, et media tellurem reppulit unda.  
 si quaeras Helicen et Burin, Achaïdas urbes,  
 invenies sub aquis. et adhuc ostendere nautae 235  
 inclinata solent cum moenibus oppida mersis.  
 est prope Pittheam tumulus Troezena, sine ullis  
 arduus arboribus, quondam planissima campi  
 area, nunc tumulus. nam...res horrenda relatu...  
 vis fera ventorum, caecis inclusa cavernis, 240  
 expirare aliqua cupiens, luctataque frustra  
 liberiore frui caelo, cum carcere rima  
 nulla foret toto, nec pervia flatibus esset,  
 extentam tumefecit humum, ceu spiritus oris  
 tendere vesicam solet, aut direpta bicornis 245



terga capri. tumor ille loci permansit, et alti  
 collis habet speciem, longoque induruit aevo.  
 plurima cum subeant audita et cognita nobis,  
 pauca super referam. quid? non et lympa figuras  
 datque capitque novas? medio tua, corniger Ammon,  
 unda die gelida est, ortuque obituque calescit. 251  
 admotis Athamanis aquis accendere lignum  
 narratur, minimos cum luna recessit in orbes.  
 flumen habent Cicones, quod potum saxea reddit  
 viscera, quod tactis inducit marmora rebus. 255  
 Crathis et huic Sybaris, nostris conterminus arvis,  
 electro similes faciunt auroque capillos.  
 quodque magis mirum, sunt qui non corpora tantum,  
 verum animos etiam valeant mutare liquores.  
 cui non audita est obscenae Salmacis undae 260  
 Æthiopesque lacus? quos si quis faucibus hausit,  
 aut furit, aut patitur mirum gravitate soporem.  
 Clitorio quicumque sitim de fonte levarit,  
 vina fugit, gaudetque meris abstemius undis:  
 seu vis est in aqua calido contraria vino, 265  
 sive, quod indigenae memorant, Amythaone natus,  
 Proetidas attonitas postquam per carmen et herbas  
 eripuit furiis, purgamina mentis in illas  
 misit aquas, odiumque meri permansit in undis.  
 huic fuit effectus dispar Lyncestius amnis, 270  
 quem quicumque parum moderato gutture traxit,  
 haud aliter titubat, quam si mera vina bibisset.  
 est lacus Arcadiae, Pheneon dixere priores,  
 ambiguus suspectus aquis, quas nocte timeto:  
 nocte nocent potae. sine noxa luce bibuntur. 275  
 sic alias aliasque lacus et flumina vires  
 concipiunt. tempusque fuit, quo navit in undis,  
 nunc sedet Ortygie. timuit concursibus Argo  
 undarum sparsas Symplegadas elisarum,  
 quae nunc immotae perstant, ventisque resistunt. 280  
 nec quae sulphureis ardet fornacibus Aetne  
 ignea semper erit: neque enim fuit ignea semper.  
 nam sive est animal tellus et vivit habetque  
 spiramenta locis flammam exhalantia multis,

spirandi mutare vias, quotiensque<sup>1</sup> movetur, 285  
 has finire potest, illas aperire cavernas :  
 sive leves imis venti cohibentur in antris,  
 saxaque cum saxis et habentem semina flammae  
 materiem jactant, ea concipit ictibus ignem,  
 antra relinquentur sedatis frigida ventis : 290  
 sive bitumineae rapiunt incendia vires,  
 luteave exiguis ardescunt sulphura fumis :  
 nempe ubi terra cibos alimentaue pingua flammae  
 non dabit absumptis per longum viribus aevum,  
 naturaeque suum nutrimentum deerit edaci, 295  
 non feret illa famem, desertaue deseret ignes.  
 esse viros fama est in Hyperborea Pallene,  
 qui soleant levibus velari corpora plumis,  
 cum Tritoniacam noviens subiere paludem.  
 haud equidem credo, sparsae quoque membra veneno  
 exercere artes Scythides memorantur easdem. 301  
 si qua fides rebus tamen est addenda probatis,  
 nonne vides, quaecumque mora fluidove calore  
 corpora tabuerint, in parva animalia verti ?  
 I quoque, delectos mactatos obrue tauros, ... 305  
 cognita res usu... de putri viscere passim  
 florilegae nascuntur apes, quae more parentum  
 rura colunt, operique favent, in spemque laborant.  
 pressus humo bellator equus crabronis origo est.  
 concava litoreo si demas brachia cancro, 310  
 cetera supponas terrae, de parte sepulta  
 scorpius exhibit, caudaque minabitur unca.  
 quaeque solent canis frondes intexere filis  
 agrestes tineae... res observata colonis...  
 ferali mutant cum papilione figuram. 315  
 semina limus habet virides generantia ranas,  
 et generat truncas pedibus, mox apta natando  
 crura dat, utque eadem sint longis saltibus apta,  
 posterior partes superat mensura priores.  
 nec catulus, partu quem reddidit ursa recenti, 320  
 sed male viva caro est. lambendo mater in artus

fingit, et in formam, quantam capit ipsa, reducit.  
 nonne vides quos cera tegit sexangula fetus  
 melliferarum apium, sine membris corpora nasci,  
 et serosque pedes serasque assumere pennas? 325  
 Junonis volucrem, quae cauda sidera portat,  
 armigerumque Jovis, Cythereïadasque columbas,  
 et genus omne avium mediis e partibus ovi,  
 ni sciret fieri, quis nasci posse putaret?  
 sunt qui cum clauso putrefacta est spina sepulchro, 330.  
 mutari credant humanas angue medullas.  
 haec tamen ex aliis generis primordia ducunt :  
 una est, quae reparet seque ipsa reseminet, ales :  
 Assyrii phoenica vocant. non fruge neque herbis,  
 sed turis lacrimis et suco<sup>1</sup> vivit amomi. 335  
 haec ubi quinque suae complevit saecula vitae,  
 ilicet in ramis tremulaeque cacumine palmae  
 unguibus et puro nidum sibi construit ore.  
 quo simul ac casias et nardi lenis aristas  
 quassaque cum fulva substravit cinnama murra, 340  
 se super imponit, finitque in odoribus aevum.  
 inde ferunt, totidem qui vivere debeat annos,  
 corpore de patrio parvum phoenica renasci.  
 cum dedit huic aetas vires, onerique ferendo est,  
 ponderibus nidi ramos levat arboris altae, 345  
 fertque pius cunasque suas patriumque sepulchrum,  
 perque leves auras Hyperionis urbe potitus,  
 ante fores sacras Hyperionis aede reponit.  
 deseret ante dies, et in alto Phoebus anhelos  
 aequore tinget<sup>2</sup> equos, quam consequar omnia verbis  
 in species translata novas. sic tempora verti 351  
 cernimus, atque illas assumere robora gentes,  
 concidere has. sic magna fuit censuque virisque,  
 perque decem potuit tantum dare sanguinis annos,  
 nunc humilis veteres tantummodo Troja ruinas 355  
 et pro divitiis tumulos ostendit avorum.  
 clara fuit Sparte. magnae viguere Mycenae :  
 nec non Cecropiae, nec non Amphionis arces.

<sup>1</sup> succo.<sup>2</sup> tinget.

vile solum Sparte est, altae cecidere Mycenae :  
 Oedipodioniae quid sunt, nisi fabula, Thebae? 360  
 quid Pandioniae restant, nisi nomen, Athenae?  
 nunc quoque Dardaniam fama est consurgere Romam,  
 Appenninigenae quae proxima Thybridis undis  
 mole sub ingenti rerum fundamina ponit.  
 haec igitur formam crescendo mutat, et olim 365  
 immensi caput orbis erit. sic dicere vates  
 fatincinasque ferunt sortes. quantumque recorder,  
 dixerat Aeneae, cum res Trojana labaret,  
 Priamides Helenus flenti dubioque salutis :  
 " nate dea, si nota satis praesagia nostrae 370  
 mentis habes, non tota cadet te sospite Troja.  
 flamma tibi ferrumque dabunt iter. ibis, et una  
 Pergama rapta feres, donec Trojaeque tibi  
 externum patrio contingat amicus arvum.  
 urbem etiam cerno Phrygios debere nepotes, 375  
 quanta nec est, nec erit, nec visa prioribus annis.  
 hanc alii proceres per saecula longa potentem,  
 sed dominam rerum de sanguine natus Iuli  
 efficiet. quo cum tellus erit usa, fruentur  
 aetheriae sedes, caelumque erit exitus illi." 380  
 haec Helenum cecinisse penatigero Aeneae  
 mente memor refero, cognataque moenia laetor  
 crescere, et utiliter Phrygibus vicisse Pelasgos.  
 ne tamen oblitis ad metam tendere longe  
 expatiemur equis, caelum et quodcumque sub illo est,  
 immutat formas tellus et quicquid in illa est. 386  
 nos quoque, pars mundi, quoniam non corpora solum,  
 verum etiam volucres animae sumus, inque ferinas  
 possumus ire domos, pecudumque in corpora condi :  
 corpora quae possint animas habuisse parentum, 390  
 aut fratrum, aut aliquo junctorum foedere nobis,  
 aut hominum certe, tuta esse et honesta sinamus,  
 neve Thyesteis cumulemus viscera mensis.  
 quam male consuescit, quam se parat ille cruori  
 impius humano, vituli qui guttura ferro 395  
 rumpit, et inmotas praebet mugitibus aures !  
 aut qui vagitus similes puerilibus haedum

edentem jugulare potest, aut alite vesci,  
cui dedit ipse cibos ! quantum est, quod desit in istis  
ad plenum facinus ? quo transitus inde paratur ? 400  
bos aret, aut mortem senioribus imputet annis :  
horriferum contra Borean ovis arma ministret :  
ubera dent saturae manibus pressanda capellae.  
retia cum pedicis, laqueos, artesque dolosas  
tollite. nec volucrem viscata fallite virga : 405  
nec formidatis cervos illudite pennis :  
nec celate cibus uncos fallacibus hamos.  
perdite siqua nocent, verum haec quoque perdite tantum :  
ora vacent epulis, alimentaue mitia carpant.

## NOTES.

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### I.

- 1 *sata*—'produced' from the earth, whence man was said in the preceding lines to be sprung.  
*vindice*—ablative, absolute of circumstances, when there was as yet no one to maintain the right or punish the wrong.
- 3, 4 *fixo aere*—"nor threatening sentences were read on brazen tablets fastened" (to the walls), as the Laws of the XII. Tables were fixed up in the Forum. Cp. Virg. *Ae.* VI. 622, *fixit leges pretio atque refixit.*
- 6 *suis*—'their native hills,' as opposed to *peregrinum orbem*—'region of the world,' as Met. IV. 627, *Hesperio orbe.*
- 8 Cp. Seneca Hippol. 532 (the whole passage an imitation of these lines) *sua quisque norat maria.*
- 9 *praecipites*—'moats with steep sides.'
- 10 *directi*—'straight,' the *cornu* or *lituus* being curved; so Juv. II. 118, *cornicini sive hic recto cantaverat aere.*
- 11 *usu*—'need.'
- 15 *nullo cogente*—to be taken with *creatis*, 'produced by the unconstrained earth' (*immunis*, v. 13).
- 16 *arbuteos fetus*—the red berries of the strawberry tree.
- 17 *cornu*—'wild cherries'; *mora*, 'blackberries.'
- 21 *etiam*—i.e., not only flowers, but *crops* as well.
- 22 *neq̄ renovatus*=*et non renovatus*—not needing to be restored by lying fallow; more frequently *renovare* is 'to restore by ploughing.'  
*canebat*—said of the fields becoming 'white to harvest.' (N.T.)
- 23 *jam*—'presently,' marking the *progressive* abundance; so *mox*, v. 21.  
*nectaris*—'wine'; cp. Virg. *G. I.* 132 (the parallel passage to this) *rivis currentia vina.*
- 24 *mella*—as in Virg. *E. IV.* 30, *et durae quercus sudabunt roscida mella*; the ancients believed honey to be a kind of dew

- which fell from the skies, and distilled from the leaves and stems of trees, especially oaks.
- 25 *Saturno*—the old Italian god of agriculture, identified with the Greek Κρόνος, whom Zeus, his son, deposed and cast down to, Hades.
- 26 *subiit*—mark the long scansion of the final syllable of the indicative perfect, especially in the case of verbs compounded with *eo*; so Met. III. 546, *interiit*; IV. 712, *abiit*; IX. 711, *adiit*; XIV. 519, *rediit*.
- 27 *auro...aere*=*aurea, aenea prole*.
- 28 *antiqui*—hitherto (see v. 19) the spring had lasted all the year.
- 29 *autumnos*—mark the trisyllabic spondaic ending of the line, seldom occurring but with proper names, as Met. III. 184, *Aurorae*; II. 247, *Eurotas*; XV. 356, *Pallene*; and then with a dactyl preceding in the fourth foot. Virgil has a line like this, G. III. 276, *saxa per et scopulos et depressas convalles. inaequales*—‘variable,’ in weather; cp. Hor. Od. II. 9, 3, *inaequales procellae*.
- 30 *exegit*—*spatiis*, ‘weighed out the year (which before had been one long spring) into four courses, or ‘periods,’ distributed through winter,” etc. From this sense of *exigere* comes *examen* (*exagimen*), ‘a balance.’
- 32 *ventis adstricta*—‘frozen by the winds.’
- 33 *subiere*—the subject is omitted, as a general practice is referred to, just as happens before *memorant, putant*, etc., when denoting a common opinion or report: see v. 44.
- domus*—nom. sing.=‘served for a dwelling.’
- 34 *vinctae cortice*—‘osiers compacted by bark;’ *cortex* is the *outer*, *liber* the *inner*, bark of a tree.
- 37 *illam* refers to *proles argentea* (v. 26).
- 38 *arma*—according to Hesiod, the Brazen (or bronze) Age had weapons of bronze (χάλκος) with which they fought; iron and steel came in later (v. 53).
- 40 *venae*, with *aevum*, the genitive of quality=‘the age of baser metal.’
- 43 *habendi*—the gerund is here the genitive of the infinitive=τοῦ ἔχειν.
- 44 *dabant*—see on v. 33.
- 45 *steterant*—i.e., as trees.
- 46 *insultavere*—not containing the idea of *scorn* (like Tibull. I. 3, 37, *nondum caeruleas pinus contempserat undas*), but simply ‘danced on the waves,’ as contrasted with *steterant* (v. 45).
- 47 *communem*—i.e., open to all; so Met. VII. 127, *communes auras*. The accusatives *lumina* and *auras* are so by attraction to *humum*, instead of being (as some read) in the nominative, with *sunt* understood.
- 48 *signavit*—cp. Virg. G. I. 126, *ne signare quidem aut partiri*

- limite campum Fas erat.* The *limes* was a technical term ; see Dict. Antiq., Art, 'agrimensores.'
- 49 *debita*—i.e., in return for the seed sown.
- 50 *poscebatur*—the ground was asked for crops, had crops required of it.' This use of the passive with an accusative, especially in the case of verbs like *celare*, *docere*, *interrogare*, which in the active take a double accusative, is common in the poets ; so Fasti IV. 67, *posceris exla bovis*.
- 51 *recondiderat*—(sc. *terra*) 'had hidden away,' *re*=as far back as possible. Cp. Amores III. 8, 36, foll., *omne lucrum tenebris alta premebat humus, æraque et argentum cumque auro pondera ferri Manibus admorat*.
- 54 *utroque*—'by the aid of both,' iron being the instrument of force, gold of treachery, in war. Note the alliteration of 'p.'
- 57 *socer genero*—referring perhaps to Caesar, whose daughter, Julia, was wife of Pompeius.
- gratia*—'love even between brothers.'
- 58 *imminet*—'is bent on.'
- 59 *lurida*—i.e., 'making pale,' as Met. XIV. 198, *luridus horror*.
- 60 *inquiri*—consults the astrologers as to how soon his father will die. Cp. use of *quaerere* in Tac. Ann. III. 22, *quasitum per Chaldaeos in domum Caesaris*.
- 62 *ultima*—i.e., the last that had remained. *Virgo—Astraea*, the goddess of justice, who became afterwards the constellation 'Virgo.'

## II.

- 1 *Hippotades*—Aeolus, son of Hippotes, god of the winds.
- aeterno*—i.e., that never failed to restrain them.
- 2 *admonitor*—'summoner to works of toil.'
- 3 *ille*—Perseus, called *Abantiades* (v. 11), as great grandson of Abas.
- 4 *parte ab utraque pedes*—'both his feet,' to which winged sandals were attached, as in the representations of Hermes ; cp. Hom. Od. v. 44. These sandals are called *talaria* in the next line as being fastened over the ancles (*tali*).
- accingitur*—middle sense, 'girds himself.'
- 7 *Cephea*—Cepheus, king of Aethiopia, husband of Cassiopeia, and father of Andromeda.
- 8 *maternae...linguae*—Cassiopeia having boasted of being more beautiful than the Nereids, Poseidon sent a sea-monster to ravage her land, deliverance from which was only to be procured, according to the oracle of Jupiter Ammon, by Andromeda being sacrificed to the monster.
- 11 *nisi quod*—'but for the fact that the wind stirred her tresses, he would have fancied her a work of marble.'



- 13 *ignes*—'imbibes the flame of love'; cp. Met. XI. 305, *pariter traxere calorem*.
- 16, 17 *istis...amantis*—'not these vile bonds you wear, but rather of such as unite passionate lovers.'
- 20 *virgo*—emphatic, 'maid that she was.' Mark the double alliteration in this line.
- 22 *quod potuit*—i.e., all she could do was to weep.
- 23 *instanti*—dative with *indicat.* (v. 26).
- 24 *videretur*—note the *imperfect* subjunctive following the historical present (*indicat.*), which is equivalent to a past tense: 'lest she should seem loath to own her fault, she told him.'
- 25 *formae*—genitive, 'confidence in her beauty,' like *generis fiducia*, Virg. Ae. I., 132.
- 28 *eminet*='projects,' better than *imminet*, as in some MSS. ; cp. the parallel passage in Manilius V., 582, *caput eminet undis*.  
*possidet*—'covers beneath his chest a broad surface of sea'; cp. Manil. l.c. *tergaque consumunt pelagus*.
- 30 *justius*, sc. *misera*—as being the cause of the misfortune.
- 33, 34 *tum...est*—"then spake the stranger-hero thus, 'Long time, will you have for weeping afterwards' (if Andromeda be not rescued); just now the time is short for bringing succour."
- 35 *illa*—Danae, visited in her tower (*clausam*) by Jove under the form of a shower of gold.
- 37 *superator*—a word coined, and used only, by Ovid.
- 40 *dotibus*—'to advantages so great as these (of origin, etc.), fain would I add desert as well (by rescuing her), if only heaven be propitious.'
- 42 *legem*—'the condition.'
- 43 *super*—adverb for *insuper*, 'besides the maiden.'
- 47, 48 *tantum...caeli*—"the monster was just that space off from the rocks (whence Andromeda hung), the interval of which in the air a plummet whirled from a Balearic sling (lit. 'a sling with its plummet') might cross"; *caeli*, genitive with *quantum*.
- 49 *repulsa*—"spurning away the ground with his feet," pushing away, as it were, the starting-point in flying, as here, or in sailing, as in Met. VI. 512.
- 50 *abiit*—see note on I. 26.
- 52 *praepe*s—used as an adjective by writers before Ovid, who frequently uses it as a substantive.
- 53 *praebentem*—i.e., while sunning himself.
- 54 *occupat aversum*—'attacks him from behind.'
- 56 *missus*—in middle sense, 'darting himself down.'
- 57 *armo*—'shoulder,' from *armus*.
- 58 *Inachides*—Perseus, the hero of Argos, which was the city of Inachus, its mythical king.

- hamo*—not the 'hilt,' but the bend of the *falx* annexed to the dagger, which constituted a falchion, *falcatus ensis* (v. 65).  
 60, 61 *subdit...versat*—supply *se* from v. 59.  
 63 *patet*, sc. *belua*—'wherever he is exposed.'  
*conchis*—'muscles'; like Triton's in Met. I. 332.  
 67 *maduere graves*—'grew wet and heavy.'  
 68 *ne*=*et non*—the negation is confined to *ausus*.  
*bibulis*—'soaked,' as they were, with blood and water.  
 70 *stantibus*—'when the sea was calm.'  
 72 *repetita*—"aimed at again and again."  
 77 *pretium*—the guerdon, as she had been the cause of the hero's enterprise.

## III.

- 3 *Aeacida*—Phocus, son of Aeacus, whom Cephalus is addressing.  
*rite*—'as was fitting, natural.'  
 5 *sociatis*—'wedded,' a very common sense of the word in Ovid, though not elsewhere.  
 8 *aequales flammae*—like *ignes* in II. 13, 'the same warmth of love.'  
 9 *fero*—not to be taken with *solebam* (v. 10), but with *feriente*, 'just striking.'  
 10 *juveniliter*—'with youthful zest,' an adverb used by no classical poet except Ovid.  
 13 *tutus...jaculo*—'armed sufficiently with a javelin.'  
 14 *caedis*—genitive after *satiata*, on the analogy of *impleri, compleri*, etc. In Met. III. 140, we have the commoner construction with the ablative.  
*repetebam*—'I used to retire.'  
 15 *exhalet*—used here as a *neuter* verb; so Met. VII. 581='to die'; more often it is active, as below, v. 66.  
 19 *sinus*—the 'folds' or 'bosom' of a dress.  
 20 *utque facis*—'as you are wont to do'; cp. II. Ep. ex Pont. III. 48, *utque facis, lapsa quam potes affer opem*.  
 21 *trahebant*—'drawing me on to misfortune.'  
 29 *index*—the technical word for 'an informer,' as *indicium* (v. 38) is the evidence given.  
 30 *susurra*—not a neuter plural from a substantive *susurrum*, but an adjective (nowhere else used) with *lingua*.  
 32 *refecta*—'recovering only after long time.'  
 33 *fati*—governed by *esse*, which after *dixit*, and like words, is often, both in poetry and prose, omitted.  
 38 *ipsa*—'herself in person.'  
 41 *victorque per herbas*—'resting on the grass after conquests' in the chase.  
 44 *tamen*—with *dixi*, 'notwithstanding' the interruption caused by the *gemitus* (v. 43).

- 47 *tenens*—not merely for *habens*, but=‘with her hand on the wound.’  
 51 *sua dona*—the lance, which had been a present from Procris; see v. 756 of this book.  
 52 *meo*—sc. *corpore*.  
 53 *pectore*—i.e., from *his* breast.  
 54 *vulnera*—in the plural may mean ‘the *parts* of the wound.’  
 55 *sceleratum*—a participle; ‘he implores her not to die and leave him thus defiled by her blood,’ *morte* being taken with *sceleratum*.  
 58 *meosque*—i.e., the gods of the shades to which I am hastening.  
 59 *per*—understand *id* before *si quid*; cp. VI. 377, *per si quid superest*.  
 61 *innubere*—‘to marry into a family,’ said of the woman, a somewhat rare word; cp. Lucan III. 23, *Innupsit tepido pellex Cornelia busto*.  
 63 *docui*—‘explained to her.’  
 67 *vultu meliore*—‘with a happier face.’  
*secura*—‘once relieved of her fears.’

## IV.

- 1 *quas*—the Propoetides, certain women of Cyprus who were turned into flint for denying the divinity of Venus.  
*per crimen*—‘in the way of vice,’ a use of the proposition seen in such phrases as *per vim*, *per ludum*, *per viam*, *per artem*, nearly equivalent in each case to adverbs.  
 2 *plurima*—with *quae*, ‘the largest share of which.’  
 6 *qua*—descriptive ablative, ‘a shape such as no woman could be born with,’ too lovely to be realized.  
 8 Mark the alliteration of *v* in this line.  
 9 *et...moveri*—‘and one whom you would fancy wished to stir, did not modesty prevent her.’  
 10 *ars...sua*—Dryden gives the sense well :—

“ Art hid with art so well perform’d the cheat,  
 It caught the carver with his own deceit.”

- 11 *ignes*—‘love’; see on II. 13.  
 12 *an*—with *temptantes*=‘to try whether,’ etc.  
 13 *nec...fatetur*—‘he cannot believe it to be ivory still,’ but a living being.  
 15 *insidere*—‘sink into.’  
 18 *teretes*—‘round and smooth.’  
 20 *liliaque*—mark the lengthening of *que* (in imitation of Homer’s  $\tau\epsilon$ ), common in the Latin poets *after* Virgil. For other instances see VI. 257, and 258.



- 9 *igitur*—here, as often, denoting irony.  
 10 *promptum*—with *est* (v. 11).  
 16, 17—*demit...aemulus*—i.e., the unworthiness of my rival robs the prize of its glory; Ajax can have no pride in winning what a man like Ulysses should have even aspired to.  
 19 *jam nunc*—i.e., while the contest is yet undecided.  
 21 *in me*—‘in my case.’ *Dubitabilis*, ‘possible to be doubted;’ a rare word used again, Met. I. 223, and perhaps nowhere else in classical authors.  
 23 *sub Hercule* like *sub illo* (v. 202), serving with Heracles when he took Troy under Laomedon: cp. Pind. Nem. IV. 40 (of Heracles) *σὺν ᾧ πότε Τρωῖαν κραταῖς Τελαμῶν πόρθησε*.  
 24 *Pagasaea*—the Argo, built at Pagasae in Thessaly.  
 25 *silentibus*—‘the dead.’  
*illic*—like *ἐκεῖ*, for the yonder world.  
 26 Sisyphus, according to some, was the father of Ulysses. The point here is that the ancestor of Ajax fills the place of *judex*, while the ancestor of Ulysses is among the damned.  
 28 *ab Jove*—‘third in descent from Jove.’  
 30 *Achille*—i.e., the original owner of the Arms in question.  
 33 *inserit*—‘ingraft on the line of Aeacus the name of a foreign stock.’  
 34 *indice*—see on III. 29. Ulysses tried to evade going to the Trojan war by feigning madness, but the trick was discovered by Palamedes (= Naupliades, v. 39).  
 36 *ultima*—sc. *arma* (v. 35)=*ultimus*, contrasted with *prior* (v. 34).  
 38 *inutilior*—‘with less benefit to himself;’ see below v. 56 foll.  
 40 *sumat*—conjunctive of disapprobation, expressing that such a thing is not to be thought of; so *simus*, v. 42.  
 41 *patrue libus*—‘of a cousin;’ Telamon, father of Ajax, being brother to Peleus, father of Achilles.  
 42 *nos*—accusative.  
 45 *hortator scelerum*—as in Virg. Ae. VI. 529, ‘encourager to crimes,’ instances of which follow.  
*Poeantia*—Philoctetes, son of Poeas, by the advice of Ulysses, left at Lemnos on account of his wounded foot.  
 46 *nostro cum crimine*—‘the guilt lying with us,’ though Ulysses was the sole author of it.  
 47 *memorant*—see on I. 33.  
 50 *nobis*—dative with *eadem*, ‘pledged to the same service as we are;’ cp. the phrases *jurare in verba, in legem*, etc.  
 51 *pars*—‘member.’  
 52 *utuntur*=*habent*.  
 53, 4 *volucres...fatis*—‘spends on hitting birds the arrows destined for the doom of Troy.’ The oracle had declared the arrows of Heracles indispensable to the taking of Troy.

- 55 *comitavit*—Ovid frequently uses the active *comito* instead of the deponent *comitor*. Similarly co-existing forms we have in *populo* and *populor*, *lucto* and *luctor*, *fabrico* and *fabricor*, with others.
- 56 *mallet*—(supply *si*) *i.e.*, had Palamedes too (like Philoctetes preferred to be left behind, and not to have gone to the war, he would now be alive, or at least have died without disgrace.
- 58 *male*, with *convicti* = 'proved unhappily for himself,' Ulysses never forgiving the discovery. The latter accused Palamedes of receiving bribes to betray the Greeks, and induced a servant to conceal some forged letters of treason, together with some gold, in the house of his victim by way of proving the charge; see v. 60 and 312.
- 59 *rent Danaam*—'the Grecian cause;' so VII. 368, *res Trojana*.
- 61, 2 *exilio*, as Philoctetes; *nece*, as Palamedes.
- 64, 5 *haud...nullum*, 'will never make me believe that the forsaking of Nestor was no crime; the construction of the participle is like *rex interfectus* for *caedes regis*; cp. VI. 226, and see Madvig. Lat. Gr. § 426.
- 67 *proditus*—see Hom. II. VIII. 96 foll.  
*mihi*—dative for ablative with *ab*, perhaps with the notion of the charges being forged *in the interest of the speaker*.
- 71 *tulit*—sc. *auxilium*.
- 72 *legem*—'condition;' he deserved to be dealt with as he had done to Nestor.
- 76 *inertem* = *inertis*, 'saved the craven's life.' For the fact see Hom. II. XI. 485.
- 77 *certare*—*i.e.*, for the Arms.
- 78 *vulnus*—inflicted by Socus; see Hom. I. c.
- 80 *standi*—as opposed to *fugit* in the next line.
- 82 *deos*—'the favour of the gods;' so below v. 91, *serunt Jovem*.
- 84 *trahit*—sc. *secum*, 'carries along with him,' as it were, in his chariot, better than 'spreads.'
- 86 *pondere*—*i.e.*, of a stone; see Hom. II. XIV. 410 foll.
- 88 *sortem...vovistis*—'prayed the lot (for fighting Hector) might fall to me;' Hom. II. VII. 179.
- 93 *nempe*—emphasizing *ego* = 'assuredly it was I.'
- 94 *pro* = 'in return for (saving) so many ships.'
- 95 *istis*—sc. *armis*.
- 98 *Rhesum*—for these deeds performed by Ulysses in company with Diomed, see Hom. II. X. 456 foll.
- 99 *Helenum*—entrapped by Ulysses in order to get from him his prophecy about the fate of Troy; see v. 335, and Soph. Philoc. 601 foll.  
*Pallade*—the Palladium, carried off by Ulysses and Diomed; see Virg. Aë. II. 164.

- 101, 2 *si semel...illis*—'if ye give rewards *at all* (*semel*) to such poor deserts as these, ye would be bound to part them and give to Diomed the larger share.'
- 103 *quo...Ithaco*—'yet, after all, what use are these arms to the Ithacan?' For the elliptical construction, *haec* accusative after *datis* or some such word, compare Hor. Ep. I. 5, 12, *quo mihi fortunam si non conceditur uti?*
- 105 *ab*—a redundant use of the preposition for the simple ablative of the instrument, common in Ovid and the poets.
- 106 *manifestabit*—a verb coined by Ovid from the adjective *manifestus*, in its technical sense of being 'caught in a crime.'
- 107 *Dulichius*—like *Ithaco* (v. 103), used in contempt for the small and obscure islands of the dominion of Ulysses.
- 109 *Pelias*—for *Pelëia*, an adjective nearly always found, as here, with *hasta*.
- 110 *caelatus*—as described by Homer, Il. XVII.
- 112 *debilitaturum te*—'that will only prove you weak.'
- 114 *cur...hoste*—'there will be a reason for your being stripped, but none for your being feared, by the foe.'
- 116 Mark the alliteration in this line.
- 118 *integer clipeus*—'a maiden shield.'
- 119 *patet*—'is gashed' or 'dinted.'
- 121, 2 Ovid is said by Seneca (Controv. II. 11) to have derived the substance of these fine lines from his master, Porcius Latro, who in a declamation on this same subject used the words, "*mittamus arma in hostes et petamus*."

## VI.

- 125 *oculos ... miratos*—this characteristic is taken from Homer, Il. iii. 216—  
 Ἄλλ' ὅτε δὴ πολύμητις ἀναΐξειεν Ὀδυσσεὺς,  
 Στάσκειν, ὕπαι δὲ ἰδεσκε κατὰ χθονὸς ὄμματα πῆξας, κ. τ. λ.  
 in contrast with the passionate manner of Ajax's beginning, v. 3.
- 126 *expectato*—'eagerly listened for,' after the pause.
- 128 Mark the alliteration of 'v,' a favourite one with the Latin poets.
- 129 *certaminis*=the *object* of the contest; as Dryden has it—  
 'These arms had caused no quarrel for the heir.'
- 133 *melius succedat*—'has a better right to be his heir.'
- 134 *successit*—'joined.' Ulysses discovered Achilles at the court of Lycomedes in Scyros, and induced him to join the Greek forces.
- 138 *domino*—sc. *loquitur*, 'for its master,' i.e., himself.

- 139 *recuset*—'disclaim,' his own merits and advantages.  
 141 *sed enim*—'nevertheless,' like ἀλλὰ γὰρ.  
*rettulit*—'claimed'; the full phrase is *referre acceptum*, 'to set down to one's account.'  
 142 *pronepos*—instead of the accusative before the infinitive, the Latin poets, in imitation of the Greek use, put a nominative when it refers to the same subject as the main proposition.  
 143 *totidem*=three, as Ajax had boasted in v. 28.  
 144 *Arcesius*—see Hom. Od. xiv. 182.  
 145 *damnatus*—as Telamon and Peleus were, expelled by Aeacus from Aegina for killing their step-brother Phocus.  
 146 *Cyllenius*—Hermes, said to have been father to Autolycus, whose daughter Anticlea was mother of Ulysses.  
 153 *in*—in the decision of these spoils: cp. v. 21.  
 156 *Phthiam*—i.e., if they fell to Peleus; *Scyron*, if to Neoptolemus (or Pyrrhus).  
 157 *isto*—Ajax. See v. 41.  
 159 *nudum*—'a bare contest of deeds,' and not of genealogies.  
 162 *Nereia*—Thetis, daughter of Nereus, disguising her son Achilles as a girl.  
 164 *Ajacem*—sc. *deceperat*.  
 166 *mercibus*—see the whole scene as described by Statius, *Achilleis* ii. 174 foll.  
 170 *injeci manum*—a legal formula for taking possession of a thing: so Virg. Ae. x. 419, *Injecere manum Parcae*.  
 171 *Telephon*—Achilles wounded, and afterwards cured (*refecit*), him by the rust of the spear. See Met. xiii. 112.  
 173 *Thebae*—in Cilicia, Andromache's city; Hom. Il. vi. 416.  
 173-5 *Lesbon*...*Scyron*—see Il. ix. 664—668.  
 176 Lyrnessus was the city of Briseis, in the Troad; Il. xix. 296.  
 178 *nempe*—corroborating what had gone before='assuredly'; see on v. 93.  
 179 *inventus*—'through which he was discovered,' as described above, v. 65.  
 181 *unius*—Menelaus, for the loss of Helen.  
 184 *sortes*—the (Delphic) 'oracle'; as Hor. Ars. Poet. 403, *dictae per carmina sortes*.  
 187 *in rege*—the feelings of the father still lived in the bosom of the king.  
 190 *iniquo*—'partial,' 'prejudiced.' Dryden translates:  
     "Never was cause more difficult to plead  
     Than where the judge against himself decreed."  
 192 *summa*...*sceptri*—'the chief office belonging to the sceptre bestowed on him.'  
*laudem*...*penset*—'to balance the glory of patriotism against the ties of kindred'= *sanguinis*, as in v. 152.



- 194 *decipienda*—Clytæmnestra was induced by Diomed and Ulysses to part with Iphigenela under the pretence that she was to be married to Achilles.
- 195 *suis*—‘favouring winds’; as Hor. Epod. ix. 30, *ventis iturus non suis*.
- 198 *viris*—i.e., before all her heroes were slain.
- 201 *Antenora*—see Hom. Il. iii. 203, where Antenor speaks of this visit of Ulysses.
- 202 *sub illo*—see on v. 23.
- 204 *primaque ... periclit*—‘that was the first of the days of peril which we have shared together,’ Ulysses having on several enterprises been associated with Menelaus.
- 206 *spatiosi*—of time, a usage almost peculiar to Ovid. Notice the unpleasant chime in this line.
- 208 *aperti*—as we say, ‘fighting in the open,’ distinguished from skirmishes from the walls.
- 209 *demum*—in its strict sense = ‘not till the tenth year did we begin really to fight.’
- 210 *interea*—during those nine years.
- 211 *tuis*—for objective genitive *tui*; see Madvig. Lat. Gr. § 297. obs. 1.
- 218 *auctore*—i.e., *Jovis monitu* (v. 216); see Hom. Il. ix. 18 foll.
- 219 *sinat*—the concessive sense of the conjunctive = ‘True, Ajax may forbid!’
- 222 *non ... loquenti*—‘this was not too much to expect from one who always talks so big.’
- 223 *quid? quod*—elliptical = ‘what (then shall we say to this) that he joins in the flight himself?’
- 224 *vela*—‘hastening in base flight to sail.’
- 226 *captam*—‘the taking of Troy’; see on v. 64.
- 227 *decimo ... anno*—i.e., after nine years’ toil. Mark the alliteration in this line.
- 228 *in quae*, with *disertum* = ‘after which style’: the preposition (as in the phrase *in eam sententiam dicere*) marking the object or direction taken by the eloquence.
- ipse dolor*—‘sheer grief,’ apart from natural talent.
- 231 *hiscere*—‘to open his lips’ to say anything, as Virg. Ae. iii. 314 = *χάδιον τι*.
- 233 *per me* = *τὸ κατ’ ἐμὲ*, ‘as far as I was concerned’; see the scene in Hom. Il. ii. 265.
- 234 *erigor*—middle sense = ‘I rise’ in the council.
- 237 *meum*—for genitive of the pronoun, antecedent to *qui*.
- 238 *petit*—supply *socium* from *communicat* in the next line.
- 242 *sors*—referring to the words of Ajax in v. 88.
- 243 *sic tamen et*—‘though chosen thus (not compelled to go), and scorning danger,’ etc.; *et* couples *lectus* (understood) with *spreto periculo*.

- 244 *Dolona*—see Hom. II. x. 314 foll.  
 247 *quod specularer*—'nothing to spy out,' as he had discovered everything he wanted from Dolon.  
 248 *promissa*—*i.e.*, by Nestor: Hom. I. c. 212—217.  
 252 *curru*—*i.e.*, of Rhesus: Hom. I. c. 512 foll.  
 253 *hostis*—Dolon had asked of Hector the horses and chariot of Achilles as the prize for his midnight adventure (*pro nocte*).  
 254 *negate...Ajax*—ironical='refuse me if you can the arms, and make Ajax to have done the greater services of the two'; *fuert*, 'suppose him to be,' a somewhat-similar sense of the conjunctive to *sinat*, v. 219.  
 257, 8 *Alastoraque*—for the lengthening of the *que*, see on IV. 20. These two lines are almost word for word from Homer, II. v. 677; for the other heroes here mentioned see II. xi. 422, 426.  
 263 *ipso...loco*—'from their mere position,' *i.e.*, as received in front, not in the back. Ovid, trained for the Roman bar, here indicates the common practice of soldiers and others accused at Rome to display their wounds in court.  
 268 *quid tamen*—anticipating the objection of some one. The recurrence of the equivocal *refert* in the same foot of two succeeding lines is awkward.  
 269 *refert*—'claims,' as above, v. 141; see v. 91 foll.  
 271, 2 *communia...occupet*—'appropriate services shared by others.' *atque*—(or *que*), after *nec*= 'but,' is often found in Ovid.  
 273 *Actorides*—Patroclus, grandson of Actor; he wore on that occasion the arms of Achilles: hence *sub imagine tutus*; see Hom. II. xvi. 130 foll.  
 275 *Hectoreo...Marti*—'duel with Hector': in reply to v. 87.  
 276 *regis*—Agamemnon.  
 277 *nonus*—referring to the nine chieftains who threw the lot for fighting Hector; see Hom. II. vii. 161, where, however, not Ajax, but Ulysses, stands at the bottom of the list.  
*munere*—'by favour of the lot,' or perhaps simply (= *χαρίων*) 'on the ground of the lot'; see Conington on Virg. G. iv. 520.  
 278 *vestrae*—not for *tuae*, but='of you and Hector.' For the fact see Hom. II. vii. 273.  
 283 *tardarunt*=*tardando impediabant*.  
 286 *in*—for the commoner *valere ad*.  
 287 *certe*—'at least,' *i.e.*, even if I had not a body strong enough to wear the arms, at any rate I have a mind to appreciate the honour of them as a gift from you.  
 288 *idcirco*—referring to *ut* in the next line.  
 289 *ambitiosa*—*i.e.*, content with nothing less than armour forged by a god (Hephaestus) for her son.  
 290 *sine pectore*—'soulless,' 'brainless'; see below, v. 326.  
 291 *caelamina*—probably a word coined by Ovid, like so many of

- the same termination, *e.g.*, *remoramen*, *curvamen*, *nutrimen*, etc.  
*immunē*—Ovid's rendering of Homer's line (in the description of the shield), διηδ' ἄμμορος ἐστί λοετρῶν ὠκεανόιο.  
 294 *diversasque urbes*—the δύο πόλεις (Hom. l.c.), one at peace, the other at war.  
 296 *quid ? quod*—see above on v. 223.  
 300 *maturior*—'earlier' in the field.  
 306 *neve=et ne*, as Met. i. 151. The meaning is, we should not be surprised at his abusing *me*, for he has done the same to *you*.  
 308 *Palameden*—see on v. 58.  
 311 *in illo*—'in his case'; so v. 21, *in me*.  
 312 *pretioque objecta*—'the gifts offered in reward' (of his treachery).  
 313 *Poeantiaden*—see on v. 45.  
 318 *sententia*—'advice of mine,' referring to *suasisse*, v. 315.  
 319 *cum...fidelem*—'though it had been enough for the advice to have been honest.'  
 322 *eloquio*—like *arte* (v. 323), and *sollertia* (v. 327), ironical.  
 323 *producet*—'draw forth' from his retreat.  
 326 *cessante...rebus*—'supposing my *brain*' (as we should say) 'to fail in your behalf.'  
 329 *execrere*—as Sophocles represents him doing, Philoct. 1035 foll.  
 332 *utque...nostra*—supply *licet* (v. 329)='though you would fain get for yourself the same power over me, as I have had over you'; the line is held by some to be spurious, by others only misplaced.  
 334 *faveat*—optative, or, better, with *si* understood.  
 335 *vate*—Helenus; see on v. 99.  
 337 *penetrāle*—'belonging to the shrine'; see below v. 345.  
 338 Cp. v. 6, *et mecum confertur Ulixes ?*  
 339 *illo*—sc. *signo* (v. 337), the Palladium.  
 340 *ubi*—parodying the words of Ajax, in v. 92.  
 341 *hic*—'on this occasion.'  
 349 Dryden translates :

'That night to conquer Troy I might be said,  
 When Troy was liable to conquest made.'

- 351 *ostentare*=point to the part played by Diomed in my feats, as Ajax had done (v. 100).  
*in illo*—'in that exploit,' the taking of the Palladium.  
 356 *haec peteret*—'would be a candidate for these arms.'  
*Ajax*—*i.e.*, the son of Oileus.  
 357 Eurypylus was one of the nine chieftains who volunteered to fight with Hector; Hom. Il. vii. 167.

- natus—Thoas. II. ii. 638, Ἀιτωλῶν δ' ἡγήτο Θόας Ἀνδράμονος υἱός.
- 358 patria—Crete. Hom. l.c. 650, 1.
- 360 quippe...meis—(but they are not candidates) 'for indeed they retired before my wisdom.'
- 361 Ovid perhaps has before him Virg. Ae. xi. 338 foll.
- 364 Notice the alliteration.
- 366 anteit—as here, so always in the classical poets, scanned as a dissyllable.
- 370 vigili—'your watchman' or 'guardian'; usually, as a substantive, it is found in the plural.
- 372 hunc...nostris—'bestow on me as my due (reddite) this distinction (of your guardian) that can be balanced by my services,' i.e., corresponding to my deserts.
- 374 See above, v. 349.
- 375 socias—'our common hopes.'
- 377 per si quid—see on III. 59.
- sapienter—emphatic=by dint of counsel, and not force.
- 378 ex praecipiti—'according to,' or 'to suit a crisis'; cp. Fasti. II. 400, in tam praecipiti tempore ferret opem.
- 379 fatis...restare—'wanting to complete the doom of Troy,' as e.g., the arrows of Heracles in possession of Philoctetes. Notice the unpleasant reverberation in fatis...putatis.
- 381 signum—see vv. 337 and 345. These words are not part of Ulysses' speech, but are added by the poet as descriptive of the speaker's artifice.
- 387 hic certe—'this at all events,' however it be with the arms of Achilles.
- 391 tum demum—'then and never before'; see above, v. 209.
- 392 qua patuit ferro—(dative), 'where a way was open (as in II. 63) to the steel,' through a break in his armour; or (qua=quatenus) 'far as the steel could reach,' which perhaps suits the context better.
- 394 ipse cruor—the mere force of the spouting blood.
- 396 Oebalio—Hyacinthus, son of Oebalus, killed accidentally by Apollo's quoit, when his blood turned into a flower: see Met. X. 215.
- 397 puero—dative with communis. Ovid here blends the two marks on the flower of AIAI, denoting the sound of woe (querellae), and of the letter V, expressing the initials of the name (nominis), ὑάκινθος.

## VII.

- 1 hic—at Crotona, in South Italy.
- 2 tyrannidis—i.e., of Polycrates (540–510 B.C.).

- 3 *remotus*—'separated (from the gods) by all the distance of heaven,' as Trist. III. 4, 73, *quamvis longa regione remotus absim*. Some MSS. have *remotos*.
- 4 *adiit*—a technical word for entering into communion with gods, oracles, etc. For the lengthening of the last syllable see on I. 26.
- 7 *in medium*—with *dabat*, 'for the good of all'; i.e., he did not reserve them as esoteric or secret doctrines for the few. *coetus*—cp. Livy I. 18 (of Pythagoras), *juvenum æmulantium studia coetus habuisse constat*.
- 11 *venti*—'whether it was Jupiter, or the winds, by bursting the clouds, that caused the thunder.'
- 14 *arguit*—'blamed the setting of animal food on table,' the construction being as in VI. 297. Some MSS. have *arcui* = 'prevented.'
- 15 *solvit...verbis*—'opened his lips in language such as follows.'
- 17 *deducentia*—cp. Met. XIII. 812, *sunt poma gravantia ramos*.
- 19, 20 *dulces...queant*—i.e., some herbs are pleasant of themselves, others require to be made soft and mellow by cooking (*flamma*).
- 21 *flore*—constructed as in Virg. G., IV. 169, *redolentque thymo fragrantia mella*; the verb also takes an accusative, whence some read here *florem*.
- 24 *ferae*—emphatic = 'only wild beasts, nor even all of them.'
- 28 *cum sanguine* = *sanguineis*.
- 29 *viscera*—'for the bowels of animals to be closed into the bowels of men.'
- 30 *congesto*—'stowed within'; cp. Met. VI. 651, *inque suam sua viscera congerit alvum*. Mark the alliteration in these lines, assisting the sense.
- 33, 34 *mandere...vulnera*—'chaw the bruised flesh,' a very rare sense of *vulnus*.  
*referre*—'reproduce' or 'imitate the fashions of the Cyclops' (Polyphemus). Some read *rietus*.
- 36 *male morati*—'ill-trained, undisciplined maw.'
- 37 *aurea*—rominative, by attraction to *aetas*.
- 44 *non utilis=inutilis*, 'baneful inventor (of animal food) whoever he was.'
- 45 *victibus...deorum*—'grew dissatisfied with the simple food bestowed by the gods'; some MSS. have *virorum*.
- 47 *primo*—with *sanguine*, i.e., the first blood shed was that of savage beasts (*ferarum*, emphatic).
- 50, 51 *salva pietate*—without infringing right ('with a safe conscience,' as we say), the bodies of those who sought our destruction might, we allow, have been consigned to death; but though deserving to be killed, yet were they not such as to be feasted on.

- 52 *inde*—‘from this point,’ viz., of killing *savage* beasts.  
 53 *quia*—takes a subjunctive here as expressing the views of others, (*putatur*, v. 52).  
 54 *anni*—poetic for *annonae*=‘the produce of the year.’  
 56 *ultoris*—to be taken closely with *vite morsa*=‘punishing it for the nibbling of his vine.’ See the parallel passage in *Fasti* I. 361, *culpa sui nocuit, nocuit quoque culpa capellae, quid bos, quid placidae commeruistis oves?*  
 57 *tuendos*—contains perhaps the double idea of ‘protecting’ from cold, and ‘supporting’ by milk.  
 58 *nectar*—seldom used, as here, of milk, usually of wine or honey.  
 62 *natum tolerare*—poetical construction for the prose, *ad tolerandos labores*.  
 63 *immemor...demum*=nothing short of heartless. *Divum* has no MS. authority.  
 66 *durum*—thus making the labour more difficult.  
*renovaverat*—here used of *ploughing*; see on I. 22.  
 67 *dederat*—‘given’ to carry home on the waggons.  
 69 *inscripsere*—‘set down the gods as sanctioning the crime.’  
 71 *forma*—ablative.  
 72 *placuisse nocet*—i.e., their beauty proves their bane.  
*vittis et auro*—not a hendiadys=*aureis vittis*, but with ‘ribbons’ on its head, and ‘gold’ upon its horns.  
 73 *precantem*—sc. *sacerdotem*.  
 76 *praevisos*—‘seen beforehand’ reflected in the lustral water placed beside the altar; so *Fasti* I. 327, *praevisos in aqua timet hostia cultros*.  
 77 *viventi*—added to enhance the cruelty=‘while yet breathing.’  
 78 *inspiciunt*—i.e., the diviners, called from this *extispices*.  
 80 Much may be said for the reading of one MS. here, *genus immortale*=‘dare ye devour creatures that cannot die, but which pass, by transmigration of souls, into other living beings’!  
 83 *colonos*—like *ruricolam* above (v. 65).  
 84 *ora movet*—‘inspires my lips.’  
 85 *rite* goes with *sequar*=‘duly follow.’  
 90 *Atlantis*—Ovid uses the first syllable of this word as both long and short; see *Met.* IV. 644–6.  
 91 *passim*—(from *pando* as *sparsim* from *spargo*), with *palantes*, ‘straying and straggling.’  
 95 *nomina vana*—‘what are but idle names.’  
 96 *falsi*—‘imaginary world’ (of Hell).  
 97, 8 *corpora...abstulerit*—‘as for bodies whether they have vanished on the pyre, or mouldered away through lapse of time in the grave,’ etc. The argument is that no evil can be felt after

- death, because the body has vanished, and the soul, though surviving, passes away into another being.
- 99 *carent*—‘are exempt.’
- 103 *minoris Atridae*—Menelaus; see Hom. II. XVII. 60.
- 105 *Abanteis*—Abas was an ancient king of Argos, where in Hera’s temple Menelaus had dedicated the shield of Euphorbus; see Hor. Od. I. 28, 10.
- 107 *quoslibet*—i.e., without any distinction between those of men and animals.
- 112 *ipsa*—‘in substance’ the same.
- 114 *pietas*—‘scruple,’ natural or religious.
- 115 *vaticinor*—‘I warn you as a prophet.’
- 116 *cognatas*—‘dislodge souls thus nearly related to you.’
- 117 *magno aequore*—i.e., fully embarked on a great subject.
- 118 *nihil...orbe*—(I may go on and say) ‘there is in all the world nothing of a kind to remain unchanged.’
- 119 *cuncta fluunt*=*πάντα φέει*, as Heraclitus said.  
*vagans* with *formatur*=‘made to be shifting.’
- 122 *impellitur*—‘pushed onward.’
- 124 *sequuntur*—seasons follow on seasons as one wave on another.
- 126 *fitque...novantur*=‘that comes into being which had not existed before, and every instant is a new creation.’
- 127 *emersas*—‘struggling out of darkness.’ Cicero (Sest. 9) has *homo emersus ex tenebris*.
- 128 *hoc* (referring to *lucem*)=the sun.
- 132 *Pallantias*—Aurora, descended from the giant, Pallas.  
*tradendum...orbem*—‘tinges the world ere she gives it over to Phoebus.’
- 133 *clipeus*—‘disk,’ a rare use.
- 135 *in summo*—sc. *aethere*, in its meridian height.  
*candidus*—here in its strict sense of ‘glowing white.’
- 139 *contrahit*—if her orb be on the wane.
- 140 *succedere*—‘seest thou not the year pass into four successive forms, in each presenting a resemblance to the ages of man?’ for *imitamina*, see on VI. 291.
- 142 *lactens*—‘juicy,’ sc. *annus*.
- 143 *nitens*—the bright green of the springing corn.
- 146 *ludit*—‘frolics amid its flowers.’ The verb is chosen to suit the parallel between children and fields.  
*virtus*—(from *vir*) adult strength.
- 147 Note the rhythm of this line, expressing the gradual growth of spring into the solid vigour of summer; so shivering winter and tottering age are reflected in the dactyls of v. 153, and the smooth decline of the latter in v. 168.
- 150 *excipit*—sc. *aetatem*.
- 152 *sparsus*—emphatic=‘just a sprinkling of grey.’

- 154 *suos*—for the sake of the assonance with *capillos*, Ovid prefers the Greek construction (*τρίχας στέπεις*) to the more usual one of the ablative with *spoliata*.
- 155 *nostra ipsorum*—for the genitive see Madv. Lat. Gr. § 297. a.
- 158 *spesque hominum*—‘each of us at first but the germ and promise of a man.’
- 159 *artifices*—adjective in active sense=‘her moulding hands.’
- 161 *vacuas*—‘open,’ ‘spacious.’
- 163 *quadrupes*—‘crawling on all fours.’
- 165 *conamine*—‘its strength assisted by a special effort.’
- 166 *spatium*—accusative; ‘he passes over the course of youth.’
- 167 *emensis*—used passively, as Virg. G. I. 450, *emense... Olympo*.
- 169 *haec*—sc. *senecta* from the line before.
- 170 *senior*—‘now grown old,’ the force of the comparative. Milo, the famous athlete of Crotona, naturally occurs to the mind of Pythagoras residing there (v. 1).
- 174 *bis*—Helen was carried off, once by Theseus, and once by Paris; she is here represented as wondering in her old age how she ever could have charmed two such lovers.
- 180 *genitalia*—‘prolific.’
- 184 *ignis*=the *aether*, the seat of the sun and stars; so below v. 189.
- 187 *in auras* with *abit*—‘passes away into air.’
- 190 *retexitur*—‘untwist the web they spun’ (Dryden), *i.e.*, the process of change is reversed.
- 192 *cogitur*—‘earth is condensed out of rolling water,’ *i.e.*, running water contains particles of sand, gravel, etc., which collect and harden into earth.
- 193 *novatrix*—a word not used elsewhere.
- 196 *vocatur*—the subject is *incipere*=‘beginning to be...is what is meant by birth.’
- 198 *desinere*—sc. *esse*, ‘to cease to be that same thing one was.’
- 199 *summa...constant*—‘yet in the aggregate all things remain the same,’ *i.e.*, the sum of things does not alter, though the individual things do.
- 202 *fortuna*—‘condition.’
- 208 *eluvie*—the ‘washings’ of rain and torrents.
- 209 *aequor*—the level plain.
- 209 *equae paludosa*—sc. *humo*, ‘changed from a marshy soil.’
- 213 *excaecata*—‘blocked up;’ cp. Ep. ex. Pont. IV. 2, 17, *ut limus venas excaecat in undis*.
- 214 *Lycus*—a common name for Asiatic rivers; this one is in Phrygia; see its phenomena described by Hdt. VII. 30; and those of the Erasinus, Id. VI. 76.
- 218 *capitis*—‘source.’



- 219 *alia*—sc. *ripa*, from v. 218, or *via* understood.  
 220 *Amenanus*—rises at the foot of Mount Aetna, named, perhaps, from its 'uncertain' (*ἀμεννός*) stream.  
 223 *Anigros*—in Elis.  
 224 *Bimembres*—the centaurs; see Met. VII. 554.  
 230 *continuum*—the predicate= 'the Leucadia of old was part of the mainland.'  
 233 *media...unda*—'by the intruding wave.'  
 237 *Pitheam*—'realm of Pittheus,' son of Pelops.  
 242 *liberiore...caelo*—'the more open sky.'  
 243 *pervia*—not with *rima*, but *humus* (v. 244).  
 249 *super*=*insuper*, 'besides' those mentioned.  
 250 *Ammon*—the fountain of the sun, described by Hdt. IV. 181, near the temple of Jupiter Ammon (Milton, 'The Lybic Hammon shrinks his horn'), represented as a figure with ram's horns (*corniger*).  
 252 *Athamanis*—feminine adjective, sc. *unda*; this was a district of Epeirus. Mark the alliteration.  
 256 *huic*—sc. *conterminus*, 'her sister flood' (Dryden); the Sybaris now runs into the Crathis.  
 260 *undae*—descriptive genitive; this fountain, producing effeminacy, was in Caria.  
 262 *gravitate*—with *mirum*, 'wonderful for (by reason of) its heaviness.'  
 264 *meris...undis*—'water unmixed with wine,' as *merum* (sc. *vinum*) is 'wine unmixed with water': see below v. 272.  
*abstemius*—in its strict sense, 'keeping from strong drink' (*temum, temetum*).  
 266 *Amythaone natus*—Melampus, who, 'by charms and simples' (*carmen et herbas*) healed the insane daughters of Proetus, King of Argos.  
 270 *huic*—with *dispar*= 'of opposite effect to this.' Lyncestis was a province of Upper Macedonia.  
 278 *sedet*—'is fixed.' Ortygia, another name for Delos.  
 279 *elisarum*—mark the quadrisyllabic spondaic ending of the line; see other instances in Met. I. 62, *matutinis*; III. 669, *pantherarum*; V. 265, *antiquarum*.  
 285 *movetur*—i.e., earthquakes.  
 286 *finire*—leave off using.  
 296 *deserta...ignes*—being no longer supplied with fiery matter herself she will leave off throwing up fire in volcanoes.  
 297 *Pallene*—for the trisyllabic spondaic ending of the line, see on i. 29.  
 299 *Tritoniacam*—not the famous Lacus Tritonitis in Libya.  
 300 *sparsae*—middle sense= 'when they have sprinkled themselves with magic drugs.'

- 302 *probatis*—'facts confirmed,' as contrasted with *memorantur* v. 301).
- 303 *mora*—'from too long keeping.'
- fluido*—a rare use of the word in an active sense='making to flow,' 'dissolving.'
- 305 *delectos ... mactatos*—'choose, slay, and bury'; this sentence (like v. 170-2) transgresses against the law of only one epithet being applied to each noun unless connected by a conjunction.
- 308 *rura ... laborant*—'haunt the fields, enjoy their task, and toil in anticipation' (of the future); *in spem*, lit. *with reference to the hope*, the hope being the *object* of the toil.
- 315 *ferali*—'ill-foreboding'; a moth burning itself in the candle was held by the Romans a bad omen.
- 319 *posterior*—'the length of their hinder legs.'
- 320 *catulus*—a predicate=what a bear brings forth is not at first a shapely cub, but a lump of scarcely living flesh.
- 323 *sexangula*—'the hexagon cells.'
- 324 *corpora*, with *nasci*= 'born in the form of bodies.'
- 325 *seros*=*sero*. Adjectives expressing relations of time and place (as e.g. *matutinus*, *domesticus*) are often used by the poets for adverbs. Mark the sigmatism of the line.
- 326 *sidera*—of the star-like spots on the peacock's tail.
- 327 *armigerum*—the eagle, 'that bears the artillery of Jove'; so Virg. *Ae. V.* 255.
- 330 *spina*—as enclosing the *medullae*.
- 331 *mutari*—*angue*, 'turn into a snake,' lit. *by a snake taking its place*.
- 332 *generis primordia*—'elements of their birth.'
- 333 *reseminet*—'reproduces itself,' a word not used elsewhere.
- 335 *lacrimis*—'gum-drops' of the frankincense-tree.
- 336 *sæcula*—'centuries.'
- 338 *puro*—the bill which has first been cleaned (like *puræ manus*), before doing a sacred duty.
- 339 *quo*—(sc. *nido*), with *substravit*.
- aristas*—the 'fruit' of the nard.
- 342 *debeat*—'is fated.'
- 344 *oneri ferendo est*—'is equal to bearing the load'; cp. Livy (who often uses the gerundive thus) ii. 9, *ut divites conferrent qui oneri ferendo essent*; so again Met. IX. 684.
- 347 *Hyperionis urbe*—Heliopolis, in Lower Egypt.
- 349 *deseret*—sc. *me*.
- 351 *tempora*—the 'periods' of empires.
- 352 *assumere*—'gain fresh (ad) strength.'
- 353 *censu*—'property,' 'wealth.'

